和月伸宏

るろうに剣心

けんしん

—明治剣客浪漫譚—

めいじけんかくろまんたん

★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。著者カラー原画に加え、著者の原画をもとに集英社でデジタル彩色を行った特別編集版です。

JUMP COMICS

巻之二十　追憶

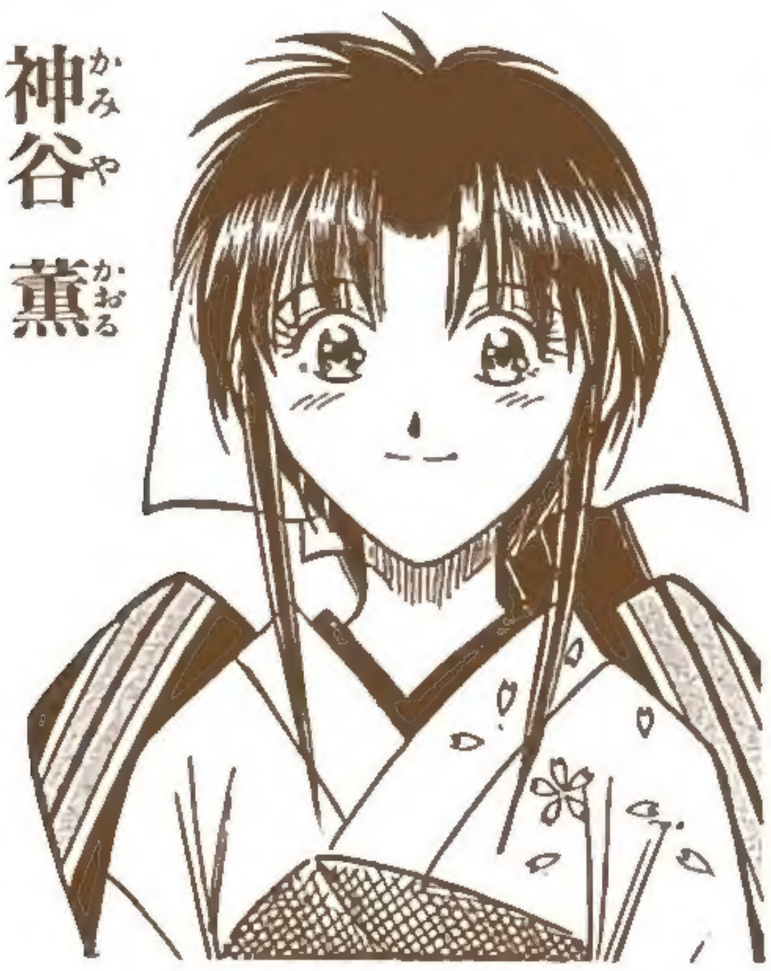
和月伸宏

るろうに剣心

―明治剣客浪漫譚―

登場人物紹介

緋村剣心（人斬り抜刀斎）



神谷薫

相楽左之助

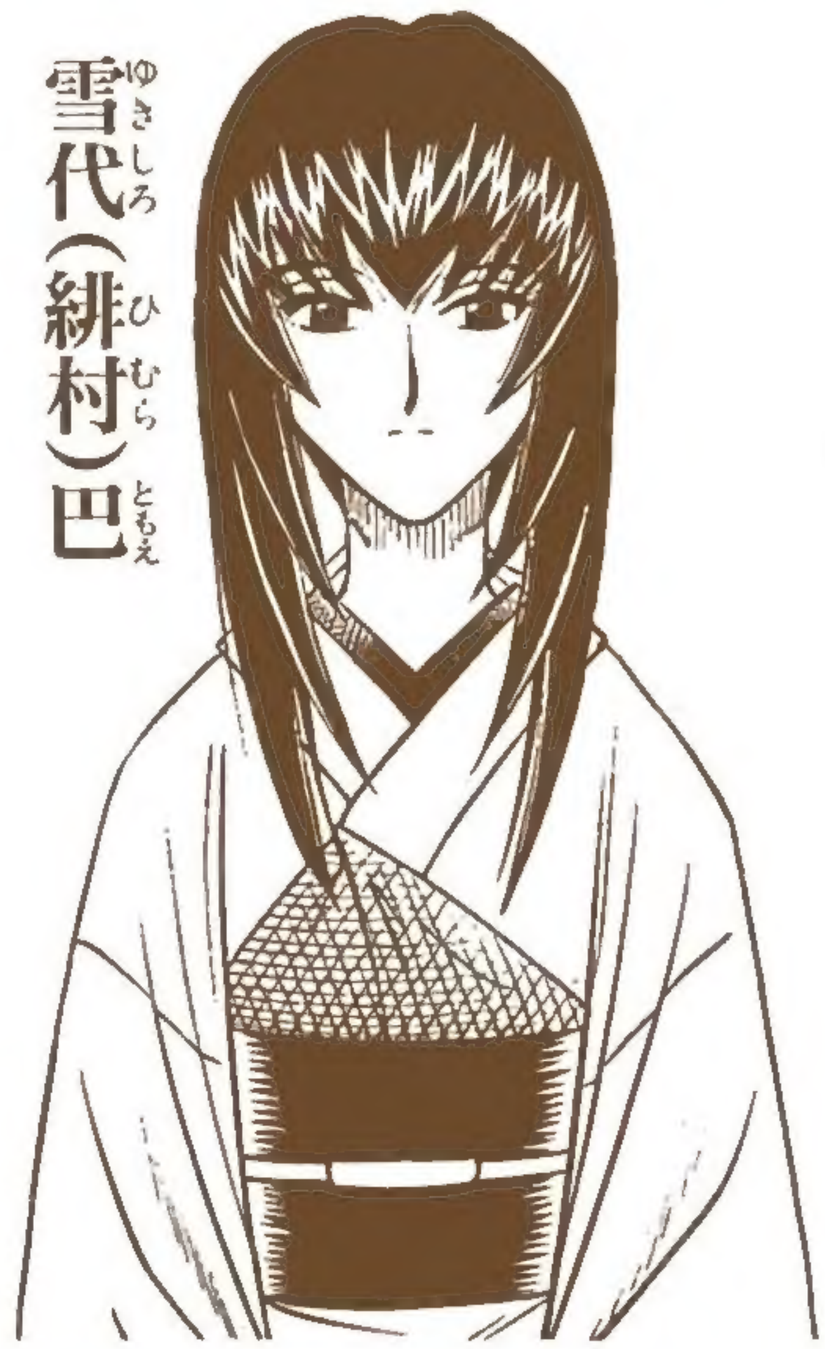
桂小五郎

明神弥彦

雪代縁（子供時代）

るろうに剣心

明治剣客浪漫譚



雪代（緋村）巴

逆刃刀を腰に下げ、不殺を誓う流浪人・緋村剣心――彼こそは新時代・明治を切り拓いた維新志士の中で最強無比の伝説を持つ「人斬り抜刀斎」であった。

天下の覇権を狙った、志々雄一派の野望を死闘のすえ打ち砕き、帰京した剣心達。闘いのない平和な日常も束の間、抜刀斎に恨みを持つ者達が集結、天が裁かぬ罪を己の手で裁く――人誅のために復讐を開始した。復讐者達は手始めに、赤べこをアームストロング砲で砲撃。次いで前川道場と警察署長・浦村宅を同時襲撃する。己の「人斬りの罪」のせいで、多くの人を巻き込んでしまったことに苦悩する剣心。その剣心の前に復讐者達の首謀者・雪代縁が現れ、十日後、神谷道場に総攻撃を仕掛けると宣戦布告し去る。首謀者が、かつて自分の手で斬殺した妻・巴の弟・縁だったと知った剣心は、巴の幻に苛まれ、罪を償う答えも見付けられず、狂気の波に飲み込まれそうになる。しかし、異変に気づき、それに前向きに対処しようとする弥彦や薫達の姿に、今の現実を守るために闘う事を決意。過去の因縁を薫達に語り始める。

時は幕末、剣心は長州藩・桂小五郎のもと、「新時代」のため、人斬りとして剣を振るっていた。ある晩、幕府側の刺客の襲撃を受け斬り伏せるが、その現場を居酒屋で助けた女に見られてしまい…。

19巻までのあらすじ

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第百六十九幕 「追憶ノ伍」 — 狂 — 二十五
第百七十幕 「追憶ノ六」 — 激動・元治元年 — 四十三
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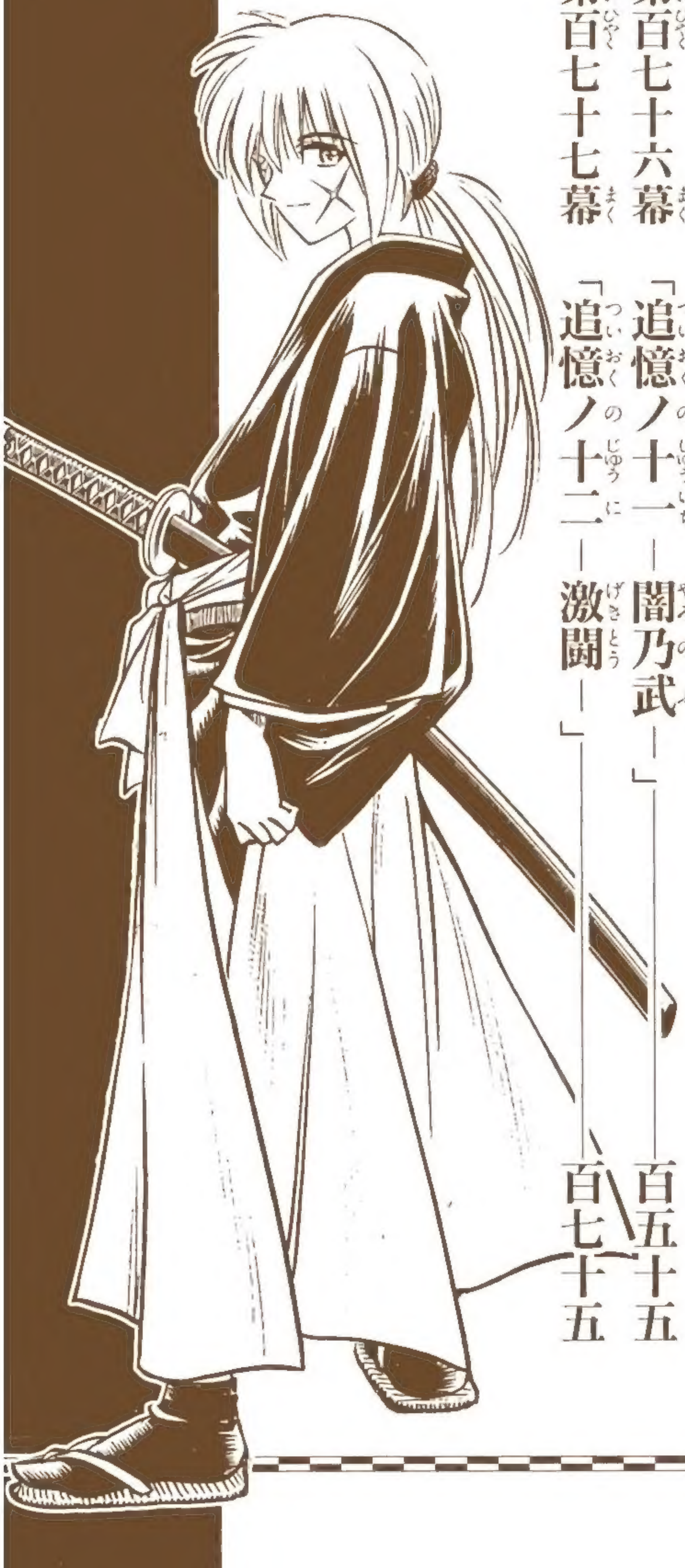
第百七十七幕 「追憶ノ十二」 — 激闘 — 百七十五



第百六十八幕「追憶ノ四ー雪代 巴ー」

AND THE JET BLACK EYES...

THE WHITE KIMONO... THE PURPLE SHAWL...

THE RED MIST FLOATING IN DARKNESS...

Act 168

Remembrance 4: Yukishiro Tomoe

和月伸宏

……

!

OH!

I THOUGHT SHE MIGHT FAINT...

A NATURAL RESPONSE TO SEEING SO MUCH BLOOD.

I DEBATED WHETHER OR NOT TO SILENCE HER...

BUT I KNEW...I COULDN'T.

NOW... WHAT SHALL I DO?

I CAN'T LEAVE A WITNESS.

AND I CAN'T LEAVE A WOMAN ALONE AT NIGHT IN KYOTO.

I HAVE NO CHOICE.

ふぅ...

HAKUBAIKŌ, I THINK...

THE SMELL OF PERFUME...

THIS ISN'T LIKE ME...

..NO.

旅館
小萩屋
KOHAGIYA INN

そお

YOU'RE BACK LATE THIS EVE—

OH, HIMURA-SAN!

ヒョイ

...

MADE IT.

ガ

...IT'S NOTHING SHADY. REALLY.

たら たら たら

THIS WOMAN HAPPENED TO WALK BY...AND FAINTED.

SOMETHING HAPPENED... AND...

UH...

HIMURA-SAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

.....!

どぉーん

OH, SO SHE'S *BOMBED*?!

THE YOUNG MAN WITH KATSURA-SENSEI JUST BROUGHT...

HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON?

BAT...I MEAN *HIMURA-KUN*? BROUGHT A *WOMAN*?!

WHAT ?!

...I KNOW.

THIS ISN'T A HOUSE OF ASSIGNATION, YOU KNOW.

I'LL PREPARE A CHANGE OF CLOTHES AND A BATH.

...FEH.

JUST A DRUNK.

!

...ARE DERANGING ME...

THE SMELL OF BLOOD... AND OF HAKUBAIKO...

ﾊﾟｸ！

ﾁﾁﾁ…

旅館
小萩屋

NO!
I FELL
ASLEEP?!

LADY!

板場

!

OH, GOOD MORNING, HIMURA-SAN.

YOUR GIRLFRIEND HAS BEEN A GREAT HELP.

YES'M.

NOW TAKE THIS TO MATSU HALL.

.....

TOMOE.

MY NAME?

...UM...

I AM BUSY NOW. TALK TO ME LATER.

...I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU.

EXCUSE ME. I'VE BROUGHT YOUR BREAKFAST.

ガラ

HELPING OUT IN THE KITCHEN...?

SEE? YOU ALREADY KNOW.

てくてく

CAN'T YOU TELL?

SO, TOMOE-SAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

お!!

どよ
どよ
どよ
どよ
どよ
どよ

BUT JUST AS MEAN-LOOKING AS HIM!

AND CLASSY!!

SHE'S BEAUTIFUL!

SO THIS IS HIMURA-KUN'S WOMAN!

...YOU DON'T SERIOUSLY THINK...

うふ・うふ!

HEH! WHAT ARE YOU ACTING SO EMBAR-RASSED ABOUT?

HEY HEY HEY!!

I'M TOMOE. I'LL SEE YOU AROUND.

ACK!

SO...

HOW WAS IT?

ONE WRONG JOKE... AND YOU'RE DEAD!

I ALMOST FORGOT I WAS DEALING WITH BATTŌSAI!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE INSTEAD OF HEAD-QUARTERS?

SECURITY MUST BE TIGHT DURING KATSURA-SAN'S STAY.

FRANKLY, I'D PREFER IT.

...MAY I SPEAK SERIOUSLY?

EVEN A GREAT WARRIOR HAS TIME FOR LOVE.

I HAVE IKU-MATSU.*

I DIDN'T KNOW CHŌSHŪ ISHIN SHISHI WERE SO LAX.

*AN ENTERTAINER IN KYOTO. KATSURA KOGORŌ'S LOVER, WHO BECAME HIS WIFE AFTER THE REVOLUTION.

IS THIS TRUE...?

CHŌSHŪ'S INFORMATION IS LEAKING.

EVEN ABOUT "BATTŌSAI," ONCE A GREAT SECRET.

YES. AN AMBUSH PLANNED BY AN ASSASSIN OF THE SHŌGUNATE.

THERE IS A TRAITOR WITHIN OUR COMPANY.

YOU WILL NEED TO BE CAREFUL OF YOURSELF.

NO. I'LL TAKE CARE OF MY END.

...WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO GUARD YOU?

FURUDAKA, WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO ATTEND OUR SECRET MEETING AT THE GION FESTIVAL, HAS JUST BEEN ARRESTED BY THE SHINSEN-GUMI.

I'VE BEEN THINKING THE SAME.

THE TRAITOR MUST BE FOUND QUICKLY OR EVERYTHING WILL GO WRONG.

HE WILL SURELY BE THE NEXT TARGET... THE GREAT PILLAR OF THE CHŌSHŪ REVOLUTIONISTS...

...AND HISTORY WILL TAKE A TERRIBLE TURN!!

ONE MISTAKE...

AM I IN YOUR WAY HERE?

THE LADY REALLY LIKES ME.

...

YOUR FAMILY WILL WORRY.

I WANT YOU TO SWEAR THAT YOU WILL FORGET WHAT YOU SAW LAST NIGHT... AND LEAVE.

WHAT?

...I WOULDN'T BE ALONE AND DRUNK ON SAKE.

IF I HAD A FAMILY TO GO HOME TO...

THEN WILL YOU GET RID OF ME...

AS YOU DID THE BLACK SAMURAI THE OTHER NIGHT?

I DON'T KNOW YOUR STORY, BUT WE'RE IN NO POSITION TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.

...DON'T LET HER GET TO YOU.

I WILL NEVER KILL AN UNARMED CIVILIAN, ENEMY OR NOT.

YOU CAN THINK WHATEVER YOU'D LIKE OF ME...BUT I FIGHT FOR THE NEW ERA WHERE EVERYONE CAN LIVE IN PEACE.

I DO NOT KILL INDISCRIMINATELY. MY ENEMIES ARE ONLY THOSE WHO BEAR SWORDS FOR THE SHŌGUNATE.

THEN IT ALL COMES DOWN TO THE SWORD...

AND IF I HELD A SWORD RIGHT NOW...

WOULD YOU...?

ｺﾄ…

…I… DON'T…

…!

DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE GOING TO STAY?!

W-WAIT A MINUTE!!

ID

HA

HA

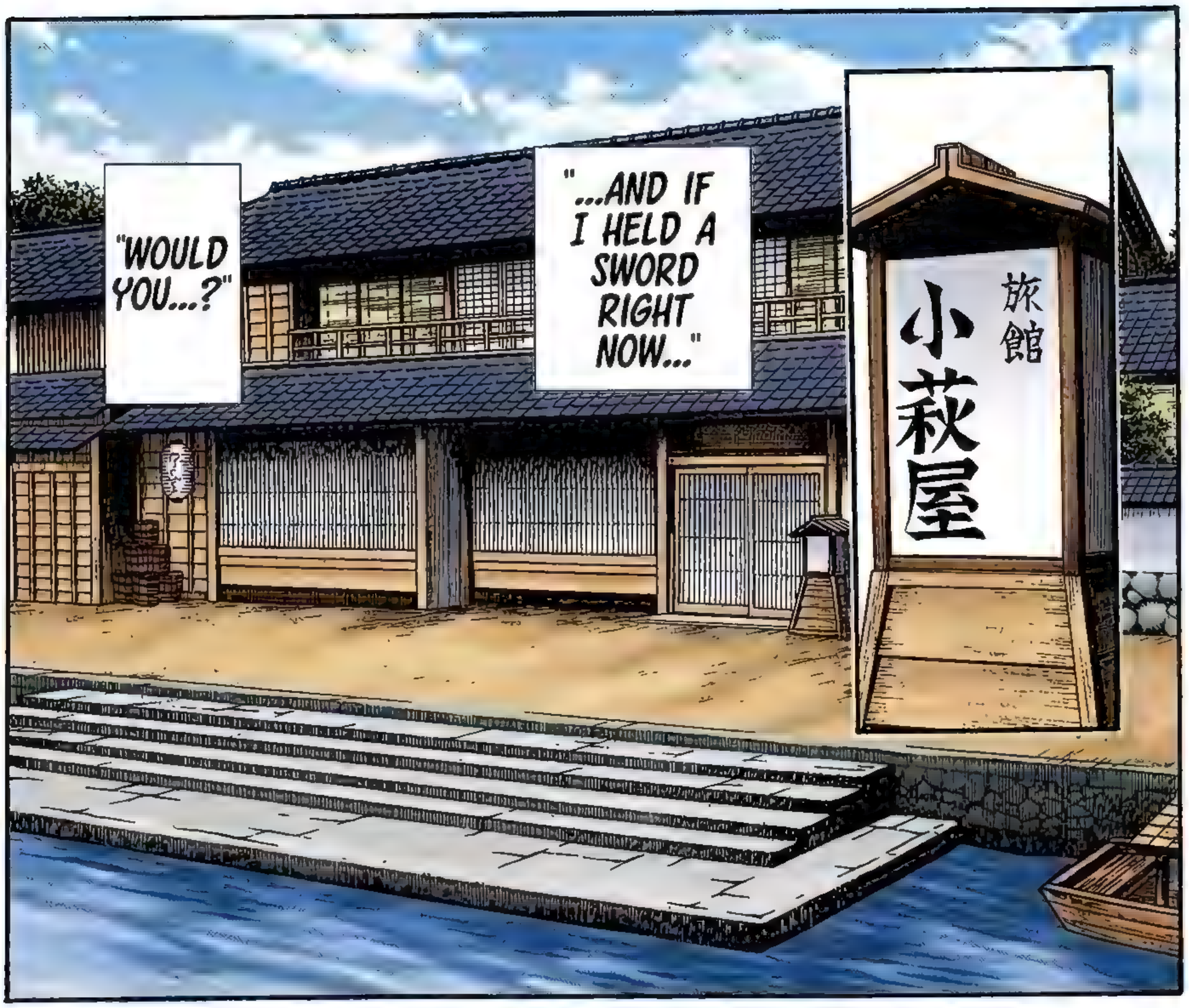
HA

THIS WAS DONE BY KOJOZERO SCANS

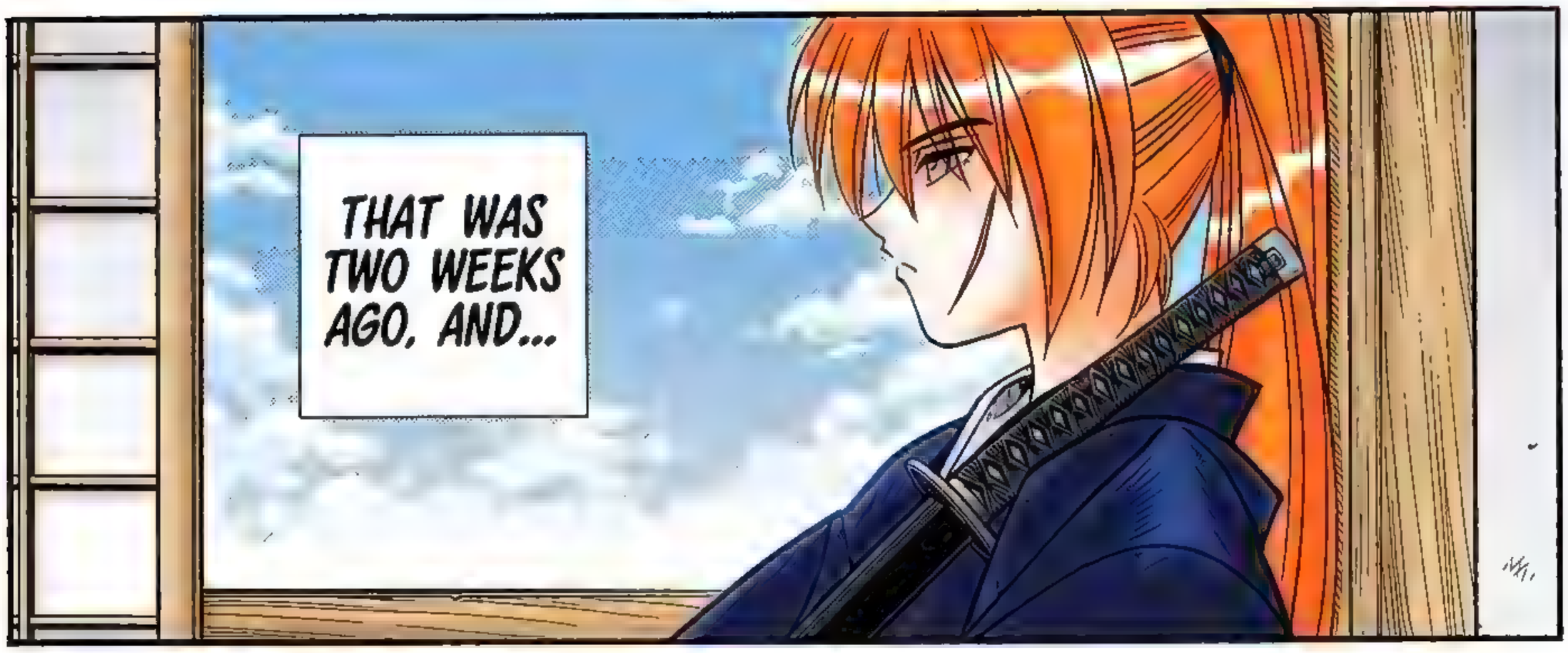
EDITED BY: KOJOZERO

IF YOU'D LIKE TO HELP WITH OUR PROJECTS OR JUST WANT TO KEEP UP WITH THEM, HERE'S OUR DISCORD

https://discord.gg/HnMuRzuxMu



Act 169
Remembrance 5: Madness



I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO—

THE LANDLADY DID.

GET OUT. I'M GOING TO CLEAN YOUR ROOM.

...AND STAYS.

SO YUKISHIRO TOMOE PLAYS THE ROLE...

THAT'S MY DIARY! DON'T READ THAT!

見るな!!

...WORSE THAN A SISTER.

WHAT...? A NOTEBOOK?

JUST IN CASE!

I GET IT, I GET IT!!

WHY THE LONG FACE?

FIGHTING WITH TOMOE-CHAN?

HIMURA!

I'IZUKA-SAN.

...WHAT DO YOU WANT?

MAYBE IT'S YOUR DIET.

YOU SURE ARE IRRI-TABLE.

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU.

TONIGHT.

飛天御剣流

RYŪSŌSEN "DRAGON'S NEST STRIKE" GARAMI "STRANGLE"!

龍巣閃●

HITEN MITSURUGI-RYU—

...BLOOD RAINED ON THE KYOTO NIGHT.

WHENEVER A BLACK ENVELOPE WAS DELIVERED...

...OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

IT WAS *TENCHŪ*...

ホレ…

WILL YOU JUST...

...GO ON KILLING PEOPLE LIKE THIS?

HAH

ADD THE FACT THAT SHE CAN READ AND WRITE, AND I THINK WE MAY HAVE THE DAUGHTER OF A SAMURAI.

HER LANGUAGE, DEMEANOR, DAILY ROUTINES...

...THE SEASONING OF THE FOOD. NONE OF IT'S KYOTO.

SO THEN YOU DON'T BELIEVE YUKISHIRO TOMOE IS A SPY?

BUT THERE'S BEEN NO SIGN OF HER CONTACTING ANYONE OUTSIDE...

THE REPORT ISN'T FINAL YET. CONCLUSIONS ARE PRE-MATURE.

IS THERE ANY EFFECT ON HIMURA?

PROBABLY JUST A STRAY KITTEN.

RAN AWAY FROM HOME FOR SOME REASON.

.....

THE OBSERVERS HAVE SUGGESTED...

...THAT HIS SWORD MAY BE GETTING DULLER.

NOT TOO BAD AN EFFECT, BUT...

BUT?

...YES?

MAY I INTRUDE UPON YOU A BIT?

FORGIVE THE LATE INTER-RUPTION.

I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT HIS WORK.

HIMURA-SAN IS OUT TONIGHT.

I KNOW.

I AM HIS SUPER-IOR.

"MADNESS"?

...WHERE TAKASUGI AND I LEARNED MANY THINGS IN OUR YOUNGER DAYS.

IT IS ONE OF THE TEACHINGS OF YOSHIDA SHŌIN, MASTER OF THE SHŌKASON SCHOOL...

...WE TOO MUST CALL UPON THE MADNESS THAT GIVES US STRENGTH.

IN ORDER TO DESTROY THIS ERA, AT THE PEAK OF ITS MADNESS AFTER 300 YEARS OF TOKUGAWA RULE...

THAT IS THE POWER SOURCE OF THE CHŌSHŪ NOW.

JUSTICE, SO HONED THAT EVEN MAD RAGE CANNOT CONFUSE IT...

AND HIMURA IS LEADING THIS "MAD" JUSTICE.

HIS DUTY IS THE HARSHEST OF THEM ALL.

WHAT DUTY ARE YOU THINKING OF MAKING ME DO?

...AND?

Hmhh...

I DON'T WANT YOU TO DO ANYTHING. I JUST WANT YOU TO UNDERSTAND WHAT WE ARE DOING.

EXCUSE ME...

……

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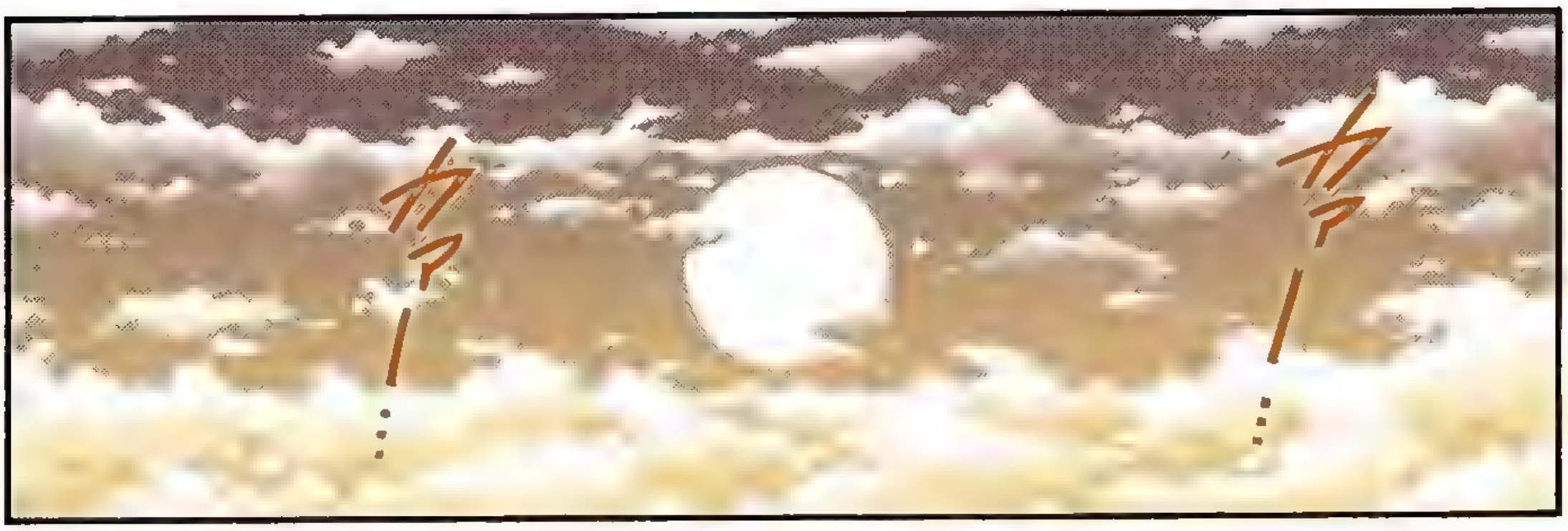
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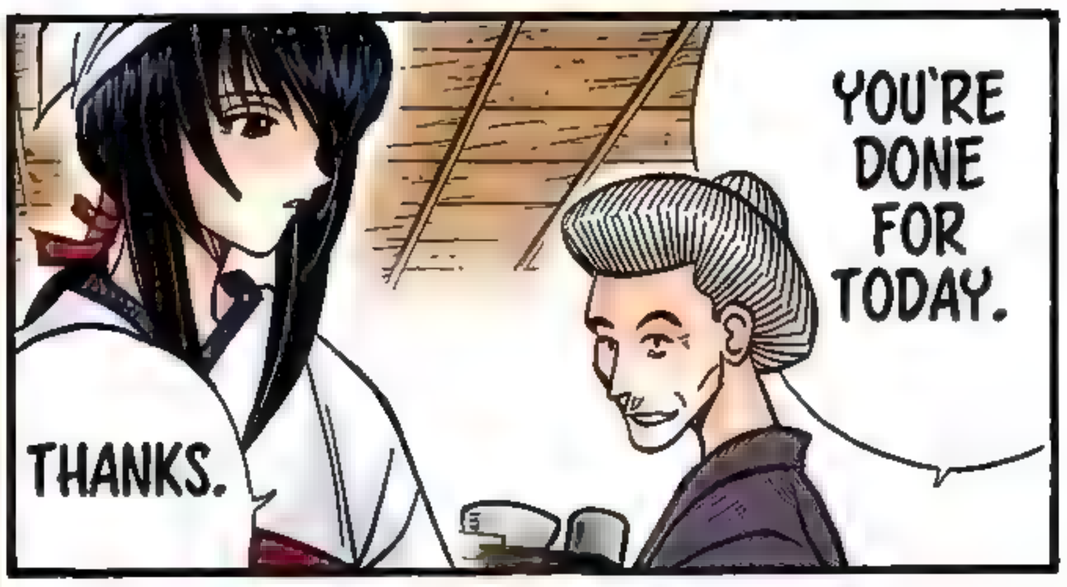
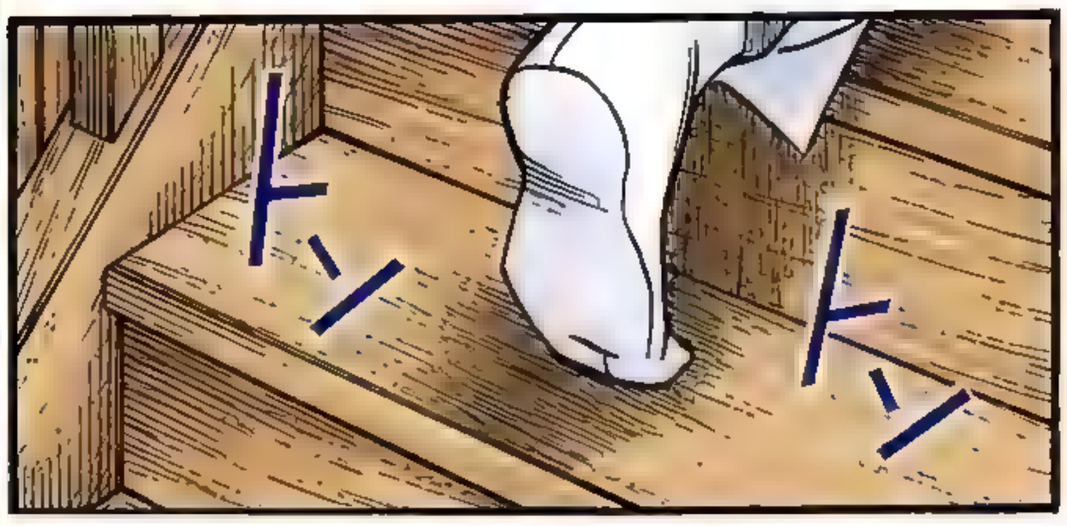

YOU'RE DONE FOR TODAY.
THANKS.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スー…

...MAD RAGE CAN'T CONFUSE IT...

...JUSTICE SO HONED THAT EVEN...

THE LEADER OF THIS "MAD JUSTICE."

ナ！……

...HE IS STILL JUST A YOUNG MAN...

BUT...WHEN I SEE HIS SLEEPING FACE...

AFTER EVERYTHING I SAID ABOUT NOT KILLING CIVILIANS, I'M...

PLEASE LEAVE NOW, OR ELSE I WILL END UP...

...I'M SORRY...

I'LL STAY HERE A WHILE LONGER.

YOU NEED A SHEATH TO HOLD YOUR MADNESS NOW.

!

YOU ASKED ME A LONG TIME AGO...WOULD I KILL YOU IF YOU HELD A SWORD?

THE ANSWER IS..."I WOULDN'T."

I WILL NOT KILL YOU.

NO MATTER WHAT MAY HAPPEN, I WILL NEVER KILL YOU.

NEVER... YOU...

THIS WAS DONE BY KOJOZERO SCANS

EDITED BY: KOJOZERO

IF YOU'D LIKE TO HELP WITH OUR PROJECTS OR JUST WANT TO KEEP UP WITH THEM, HERE'S OUR DISCORD

https://discord.gg/HnMuRzuxMu

FOUNDING YEAR OF GENJI. JUNE 5TH.

THE GION FESTIVAL.

Act 170

Remembrance 6: Chaos: Genji

コンチキチン…

コンコン…

LET'S GO TO THE FESTIVAL!

THEN WE CAN HIT THE BROTHELS AND...UH...

HEY, HIMURA!

HIMURA-SAN IS ALREADY SLEEPING.

PLEASE BE QUIET.

!

THIS COULD MEAN...

...THAT THE JOKE IS NO LONGER A JOKE.

ﾊﾀﾘ//..

HIMURA IN DEEP SLEEP? IN FRONT OF ANOTHER PERSON?

OH, KATAKAI-SAN. GOOD TIMING. DO YOU—

WELL, YOU TWO BE AS FRIENDLY AS YOU LIKE. IT DOESN'T MAKE MY POSITION ANY WORSE.

THIS IS AN EMER-GENCY !

FORGET THAT!

!

I'IZUKA WAS—

SHH!

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

HIMURA !!

THE LOCATION WAS LEAKED!!

THE MEETING AT IKEDA-YA WAS ATTACKED!

KATAKAI-SAN. WHY ARE YOU HERE?

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE GUARDING KATSURA-SAN AT—

THE MIBU WOLVES—THE SHINSENGUMI!!

BUT YOSHIDA-SAN... MIYABE-SENSEI... AND THE REST OF THEM...

HE WAS RUNNING EARLY, SO HE RAN AN ERRAND AT TSUSHIMA PARTY HEAD-QUARTERS.

HE WAS TAKING A CATNAP WHEN IKEDA-YA WAS ATTACKED!

WHAT ABOUT KATSURA-SAN?!

YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT IF YOU LEAVE NOW!

IT'S TOO LATE!!

HIMURA! WAIT!

ATTACKING NOW WILL ONLY HURT THE CHŌSHŪ PARTY!!

THERE ARE ALREADY 3,000 SHŌGUNATE SOLDIERS HEADING THAT WAY!

NIGHT OF THE IKEDA-YA INCIDENT.

FOUNDING YEAR OF GENJI. JUNE 5TH.

新撰組

THE TRIUMPH—

OF THE SHINSENGUMI!!

凱旋!!

加賀
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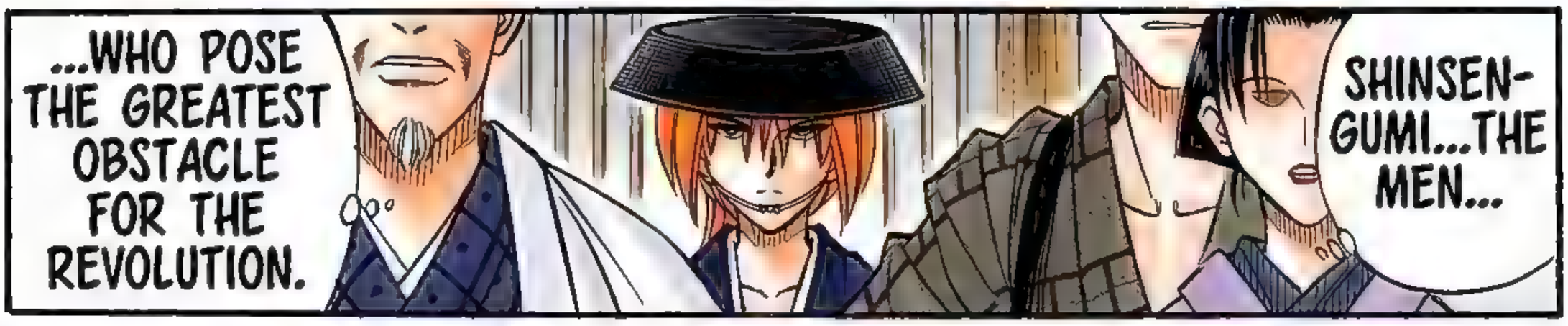
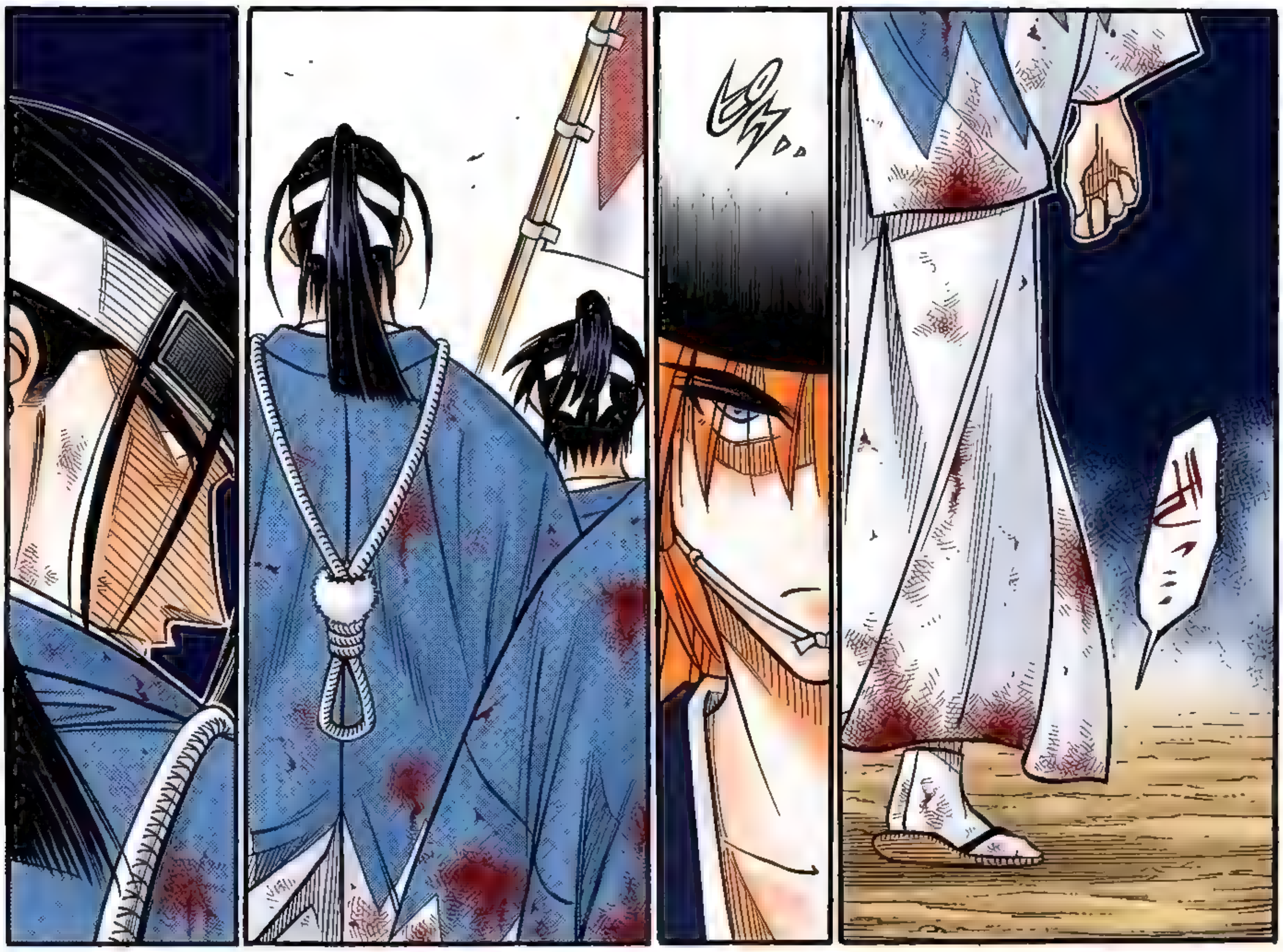

...WHO POSE THE GREATEST OBSTACLE FOR THE REVOLUTION.
SHINSEN-GUMI...THE MEN...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IT'S... NOTHING, OKITA-KUN.

WHAT'S THE MATTER, SAITŌ-SAN?

HE AND I... ARE GOING TO HAVE A LONG RELATIONSHIP...

WORD SPREADS OF THE SLAUGHTER...

THEN...

WITH MADNESS KNOWING NO BOUNDS, THEY MARCH TOWARD KYOTO WITH 3,000 SOLDIERS.

...DISTORTED BY EXAGGERATIONS AND ERRORS, UNTIL IT SPARKS A BLAZE OF RAGE IN CHŌSHŪ.

AGAINST THEM, THE SHOGUN SENDS AN ARMY OF 20,000.

THE END IS SETTLED BEFORE THE FIGHT BEGINS.

MANY REVOLUTIONISTS, INCLUDING KENSHIN, FIGHT THEIR HARDEST BUT CANNOT TURN THE TIDE.

FOUNDING YEAR OF GENJI. JULY 8TH. THE KINMON INCIDENT.

FIRE IS SET TO 28,000 HOMES, DRIVING VICTIMS INTO THE STREETS OF THE CITY.

IN ONE DAY OF FIGHTING, CHŌSHŪ'S CASUALTIES NUMBER 400... AGAINST 60 FOR THE SHŌGUNATE.

YOU WERE AGAINST SUCH AN ATROCITY.

KATAGAI-SAN SAID IT WAS ORDAINED BY THE HEAVENS THAT YOU WERE THE ONLY SURVIVOR.

THAT ILL-FATED MEETING AT IKEDA-YA...

...WAS INTENDED TO PLAN THE RETRIEVAL OF THE EMPEROR DURING THE CHAOS CREATED BY SETTING FIRE TO KYOTO.

I WILL BE HIDING MYSELF FOR A WHILE.

I CANNOT RETURN TO HAGI, BUT I WILL EVENTUALLY BE CAUGHT HERE.

BUT LOOK AT ME NOW...

THE CHŌSHŪ PARTY IS NEAR ANNIHILATION, AND BEING CHASED DOWN AS THE ENEMY OF THE EMPEROR.

THE CONSERVATIVES HAVE REGAINED POWER IN HAGI, THE PARTY'S CAPITAL.

WHAT WILL I DO?

THE KOHAGI-YA HAS BEEN BURNT DOWN.

TOMOE-KUN.

YES?

I'VE PREPARED A HOUSE IN A FARM VILLAGE OUTSIDE KYOTO.

LAY LOW UNTIL OUR NEXT ACTION IS DECIDED.

I WILL CONTACT YOU THROUGH I'IZUKA.

IF YOU HAVE NOWHERE TO GO...

...I'D LIKE YOU TO LIVE THERE WITH HIMURA.

.....

TAKE CARE...

THE ARRANGE-MENT CAN BE ENTIRELY FOR APPEAR-ANCES.

A YOUNG COUPLE BLENDS IN MORE EASILY THAN A YOUNG MAN.

...OF HIMURA.

IF YOU NEED TRAVEL FUNDS, I'LL PROVIDE THEM.

EVERYONE HAS SOMEWHERE TO GO.

I DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE TO GO...

WHAT SHALL WE DO?

I DON'T WANT IT JUST FOR APPEARANCES.

STAY WITH ME.

...I KNOW.

I WANT YOU WITH ME...

I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I CAN BE WITH YOU, BUT...

THAT'S THE COWARD'S WAY OUT.

...UNTIL DEATH PARTS US.

HAGI, CHŌSHŪ.

HE GOT MARRIED?! BUT HE'S BARELY GROWN UP!

ははは THAT IS FUNNY!!

YAMAGATA KYŌSUKE (LATER YAMAGATA ARITOMO).

ポポ

THESE ARE DARK TIMES. WHAT IS HE THINKING?

THIS IS NO LAUGHING MATTER, SHINSAKU!

KATSURA-SAN AND A HITOKIRI ARE IN VERY DIFFERENT POSITIONS.

NOT SO DIFFER-ENT.

KOGORŌ, AS GRIM AS HE SEEMS...

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, KYŌSUKE?

...IS ALSO RELAXING WITH HIS IKUMATSU.

AFTER I'M GONE, KATSURA AND HIMURA WILL BOTH BE DEFENDERS OF THE NEW ERA.

HOW CAN YOU TRUST THE NATION TO A MAN WHO WON'T TAKE CARE OF THE WOMAN HE LOVES?

HIMURA! LEAVE HAGI UP TO ME!

SHINSAKU, ARE YOUR LUNGS...?

AFTER YOU'RE GONE...?

DON'T YOU LET GO OF THAT WOMAN AND KYOTO EVEN IF IT MEANS YOUR LIFE!!

DO YOU THINK I WOULD LET MYSELF DIE AFTER THEY'VE THROWN ME IN HERE FOR TRYING TO LEAVE THE FACTION?!

DON'T WORRY, KYŌSUKE.

I'M NOT PLANNING TO DIE YET.

AMID SUCH TURNING POINTS THE TWO BEGAN THEIR NEW LIFE TOGETHER.

KATSURA KOGORŌ'S DOWNFALL.

TAKASUGI SHINSAKU'S DISEASE.

FOUNDING YEAR OF GENJI, MIDSUMMER.

KENSHIN FIFTEEN. TOMOE EIGHTEEN.

THIS WAS DONE BY KOJOZERO SCANS

EDITED BY: KOJOZERO

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第百七十一幕「小休止」

TK
TK
……

LET'S...

...REST AWHILE...

...KEN-SAN?

YOU'VE BEEN TALKING FOR THREE HOURS STRAIGHT NOW.

...ALL RIGHT.

.....

OH.
THANKS.
YOU'VE BEEN DOING A LOT. I'LL HELP.
UM... I'LL...
...GO MAKE SOME MORE TEA.
スクッ
HEY! HOW DO YOU KNOW WHERE OUR SNACK CABINET IS?!
てくてくてくてく...
I'M STARTING TO GET A LITTLE HUNGRY.
I'LL GO MAKE SOME SNACKS OR SOMETHING.

...I WAS SURPRISED TO HEAR KENSHIN-SAN WAS A HITOKIRI.

YEAH? YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT BATTŌSAI?

AND AT 15!

I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR HE WAS MARRIED!

はむっ

REALLY?

NOT ME. BACK THEN A SAMURAI CAME OF AGE AT 15.

A CEREMONY CALLED *GENPUKU*.

IF YOU PLAN TO BE A SWORDSMAN, REMEMBER IT.

WHY SHOULD ANYONE ELSE HAVE AN OPINION ON IT?!

SUCH THINGS SHOULD BE UP TO THE INDIVIDUAL!

I SAID, "NOT A THING."

...ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY SOMETHING ?

MM ?

AND 18 WAS ACTUALLY KIND OF OLD TO GET MARRIED BACK THEN...

22

NOT A THING.

WHAT?

I CAN'T SEE IT YET.

...STILL...

DON'T IGNORE ME!

SO YOU THINK SO TOO?

HEY!

TRUE.

YUKISHIO...

...OR HIMURA.

...TOMOE...

IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE STORY, SO WE CAN'T KNOW YET...

BUT HER BACK-GROUND... HER IDENTITY ...

...EVEN HER THOUGHTS ARE SUCH MYSTERIES.

I HAVE TO WONDER...

...WHETHER SHE REALLY LOVED KEN-SAN OR NOT.

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS... YOUR OWN WIFE...

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT KENSHIN ENDED UP KILLING HER.

HOW COULD YOU MARRY SOMEONE YOU DON'T EVEN LOVE?

BUT SHE MUST HAVE.

.....

HUH?

NEVER MIND. LET'S GO BACK.

I'LL NEVER FORGIVE HER IF SHE LETS SOMETHING LIKE THIS BREAK HER.

UM... SHALL WE HEAD BACK?

I'M WORRIED ABOUT KAORU-SAN...

MM. GOOD POINT.

YES.

IN TEN DAYS?

I DECLARED IT THIS MORNING.

I DON'T MIND. I DON'T LIKE MAKING SMALL MOVES ANYWAY.

HA-HAAA!!

WITHOUT CONSULTING YOUR COMRADES?

I DON'T LIKE IT.

WHY SHOULD WE WAIT SO LONG?

DECLARING WAR IS FINE...

...BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE TEN DAYS.

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF HE'S ALONE OR WITH HIS FRIENDS...

BATTŌSAI AT FULL STRENGTH WAS A LEGEND THROUGH THE BAKUMATSU AND MEIJI.

WHEN WE FIGHT, IT WILL BE AN ALL-OUT WAR.

NOT EVEN THE MOST PASSIVE MAN WOULD PULL HIS PUNCHES.

OUR NEXT STRIKE IS AT THEIR HEAD-QUARTERS.

YOU'RE CONTRA-DICTING YOURSELF.

I'VE CALLED FOR MY BEST MEN FROM SHANGHAI.

BUT IT'LL TAKE TEN DAYS TO BRING THEM ALL HERE.

SO...I THOUGHT A BIT OF HELP FOR MY COMRADES WOULD BE IN ORDER.

WHICH MEANS THAT WHEN HE FIGHTS—WE BECOME ENEMIES.

OUR RULE WAS, "WHEN BATTŌSAI TURNS AND FIGHTS, THIS BECOMES A FREE-FOR-ALL."

A NOBLE OLD CUSTOM.

"SENDING SALT TO THE ENEMY."

...HMPH.

I'LL LET THAT GO.

I DON'T CARE WHAT THAT MAN'S PLOTTING. TEN DAYS FROM NOW, BATTŌSAI'S HEAD...

IS MINE !!

AH. YOU HEARD THAT TOO, MUMYŌI-SAN?

TEN DAYS. DON'T FORGET.

...SIGH.

A SHARP ONE.

A BATTLE OF WITS BETWEEN A FOX AND A TANUKI GETS OLD QUICKLY.

ENISHI, WHAT ARE YOU PLOTTING?

WHAT'S GEIN MAKING IN THE BASEMENT, WHERE THERE'S NO CEILING SPACE FOR ME TO CRAWL IN?

I HAVE NO INTEN-TION OF GETTING IN YOUR WAY.

THIS IS A WARNING. I DON'T CARE WHAT GEIN AND YOU ARE PLOTTING TOGETHER.

I'M NOT GOING TO YELL IT UP THERE, MUMYŌI-SAN.

BUT...

BUT DO NOT GET IN MY WAY EITHER. BECAUSE I'M GOING TO KILL BATTŌSAI...

...THE ONLY MAN WHO EVER WITNESSED MY APPEARANCE AND LIVED.

YOU CAN COME DOWN AND MEET ME FACE TO FACE.

I DON'T NEED ANYONE ...

...NOT AS LONG AS MY SISTER IS THERE.

HE AND I MAY AGREE ON A METHOD, BUT OUR GOALS ARE QUITE DIFFERENT.

GEIN AND I...?

...TOMOE.

ONLY YOU...

...YOU.

ONLY...

WHY DID YOU DIE...

WHY?

...MY SISTER?

SO LET'S HEAR IT.

.....

KENSHIN ...

KAORU-SAN?

PLEASE...

TELL US THE REST.

...ALL RIGHT.

LET'S...

...CON-TINUE...

第百七十二幕『追憶ノ七 回園にて』

A COLD DECEMBER.

THE LAST DAYS OF THE FOUNDING YEAR OF GENJI.

FIVE MONTHS SINCE THE KINMON INCIDENT.

CHŌSHŪ MANAGED TO AVOID SUBJUGATION BY THE BAKUFU, BUT THERE ARE ALREADY RUMORS OF A SECOND ATTEMPT.

FIRST THE BAKAN WAR IN AUGUST...

THEN, IN OCTOBER, THE PURGING OF CONVENTION-ALISTS.

CHŌSHŪ IS NOW IN A STATE OF CIVIL WAR.

THEN ON THE 15TH OF THIS MONTH, TAKASUGI, UNABLE TO CONTAIN HIMSELF ANY LONGER, STOOD UP WITH HIS KIHEI ARMY TO REGAIN CONTROL OF THE PARTY'S GOVERNMENT.

OR LET'S JUST SAY I CAN'T CONTACT HIM.

NOTHING. AGAIN.

...ANY NEWS FROM KATSURA-SAN?

SOME ARE CALLING HIM "RUNNING KOGORŌ" BECAUSE HE DODGED THE BLOODSHED AT THE IKEDA-YA INCIDENT.

...BUT MAYBE THAT'S NOT SO FAR FROM THE TRUTH.

NOBODY KNOWS WHERE HE'S GONE.

TAKASUGI-SAN WILL WIN.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT.

AND KATSURA-SAN WILL RETURN.

CHŌSHŪ IS FINISHED.

FU...

IT'S THE SHINSENGUMI'S WORLD NOW. PACKS OF WOLVES IN LIGHT BLUE JACKETS AND "MOUNTAIN STRIPES" PROWLING FOR REVOLUTIONARIES.

HOW IS THE CITY?

MEANWHILE, THE KYOTO MIMAWARIGUMI AND OTHER SHŌGUNATE ARMIES ARE COMPETING WITH THEM. IT'S A BLOODY CAPITAL.

MM?

OH. PRETTY GRUESOME.

THEY WILL NOT COME LOOKING IN THE COUNTRY UNLESS IT'S FOR SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT.

THEIR FIRST DUTY IS TO ENFORCE THE LAW IN KYOTO.

YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL TOO.

PFF

WE NEVER FOUND THE TRAITOR INFORMANT, AND IF WE CAN'T KNOW WHO WE'RE FIGHTING, WE CAN'T KNOW WHAT ATTACKS THEY MAY LAUNCH.

THE ENEMY THAT WORRIES ME MOST IS THE PRESENCE IN THE SHADOWS.

AREN'T YOU GOING STALE??

HOW ABOUT YOU?

PEH. ALL THIS STALE TALK...

...IS MAKING ME FEEL STALE TOO.

ドン

THANKS TO YOU.

HEH

...LIVING IN LUKEWARM WATER AWAY FROM YOUR HITOKIRI LIFE.

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE STARTING TO GET BORED...

YOU SEEM LIKE YOU STILL HAVE ENERGY LEFT.

AND THESE FIVE MONTHS HAVE BEEN ANYTHING BUT BORING. SO MANY EYE-OPENING MOMENTS...

HO! THE MEDICINE MERCHANT AGAIN!

HELLO!

I LOVE KENJUTSU, BUT NOT KILLING.

...THAT'S NOT TRUE.

スッ...

MM. THE MEDICINE KENSHIN-SAN MAKES IS POPULAR FOR SWORD WOUNDS...

YOU TRAVEL A LONG WAY!

BUYING NEW MEDICINE?

I SEE.

I'LL MIX A CURE. COME GET IT TOMORROW.

MY WIFE'S HAD AN UPSET STOMACH SINCE LAST NIGHT.

OH, KENSHIN-SAN. GOOD TIMING.

PLEASE TAKE CARE IN THE MOUNTAINS.

YOU AND I BOTH.

YOU'RE GATHERING HERBS AGAIN?

YOU WORK SO HARD!

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I'M HOME—

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?!

HUH!!!

WELCOME HOME!

OH!!

てーん

SHE'S NO FUN!

SCARY, EVEN...

てーん

てーん

.....

SHE DID! BUT—

I WAS UP THE MOUNTAIN GATHERING HERBS. DIDN'T TOMOE PLAY WITH YOU?

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

SIGH

OH, REALLY ?

"SO DON'T PLAY WITH HIM."

DAD SAYS, "THAT MEDICINE MAN IS STRANGE."

すやっ

すやっ

すやっ

I SEE.

"HE TAKES CARE OF PEOPLE."

BUT MOM SAYS, "HE'S A GOOD MAN."

HEY...

I'LL BE HOME ALL DAY TOMORROW.

COME OVER IN THE MORNING AND PLAY WITH EVERYONE.

SEE YOU TOMORROW !!

NOW, IT'S LATE. YOU GO ON HOME.

...ARE SMILING NOW.

...SINCE YOU...

I LOVE THEIR INNOCENT SMILES. ESPECIALLY...

I'M SORRY. I'M NOT GOOD AT SMILING.

I DO LIKE CHILDREN, THOUGH.

HA HA!

I WAS BORN INTO POVERTY. WORRYING ABOUT FOOD EVERY DAY. I LOST MY FAMILY.

AND AT TEN YEARS OLD I FOUND MYSELF TRAINING RELENTLESSLY IN HITEN MITSURUGI-RYŪ.

—YES.

YOU'RE RIGHT...

NEVER EXCHANGED SMILES.

I'VE NEVER INITIATED A CONVERSATION WITH ANYONE.

AND NOW, I AM A HITOKIRI OF CHŌSHŪ.

BUT IN TRUTH, UNTIL NOW, I HAD NO IDEA WHAT THIS "HAPPINESS" REALLY WAS.

ALONE BUT FOR HITEN MITSURUGI-RYŪ, MY SWORD, AND DEATH...

I JOURNEY CEASELESSLY TOWARD THE NEW ERA WHERE EVERY MAN CAN FIND HAPPINESS.

FIVE MONTHS OF LIVING HERE IN THE FARMLANDS, WITH YOU...

..HAS SHOWN ME WHAT I'VE BEEN FIGHTING FOR. WHAT I MUST KEEP FIGHTING FOR.

I KNOW THE BATTLE WILL RESUME EVENTUALLY ...

...BUT I HOPE I WILL AT LEAST BE ABLE TO WELCOME THE NEW YEAR LIKE THIS.

MMF. HOW LONG WILL THIS LIFE IN HIDING LAST?

EVEN IF IT'S ONLY UNTIL KATSURA-SAN COMES BACK...

OH.

.....

HE SAID HE'D BE STAYING AT HIMURA'S ...

IIZUKA. WHY'S HE IN THE CITY?

CHŌSHŪ IS NEARLY FINISHED.

!

I KNOW A LOT OF CHŌSHŪ HIDEOUTS, BUT...

...STRANGE.

I'IZUKA...! HE'S THE TRAITOR!!

HIS WITS HAVE DULLED IN THE PAST FIVE MONTHS. NOW WOULD BE A FINE TIME TO KILL HIM.

I LET KATSURA GO, BUT I STILL KNOW WHERE BATTŌSAI IS.

IF WE LOSE HIMURA NOW, CHŌSHŪ WON'T HAVE A CHANCE IN KYOTO!

I'VE GOT TO—

NNNG!!

WHAT—!

YOU REALLY SHOULD HAVE A GUARD, YOU KNOW.

MUMYŌI!!

I'LL FINISH HIM!!

I'LL FINISH HIM!!

THE FOOL !!

GUH !!

HA!!

HM. THAT'S AN INTERESTING WEAPON.

THIS GUY IS KATSURA'S DIRECT SUBORDINATE.

KATAGAI...

THERE'LL BE TROUBLE WHEN THEY FIND OUT HE'S SUDDENLY GONE.

YEP. IT'S CALLED "CHŪSEN." I GOT IT FROM A FRIEND...

THEN WE HAVE NO CHOICE.

WE MUST LAUNCH OUR STRIKE ON BATTŌSAI!

...WHO LOVES "SHADOW INSTRU-MENTS."

WE'LL USE THE SEED...

...THAT WE PLANTED A YEAR AGO.

MEANING ?

BATTŌSAI FINISHED MURAKAMI AND HIS CHAINS IN ONE STRIKE.

WE MUST BE CAUTIOUS.

ENISHI!!

YOUR TIME—

HAS COME!!

THIS WAS DONE BY KOJOZERO SCANS

EDITED BY: KOJOZERO

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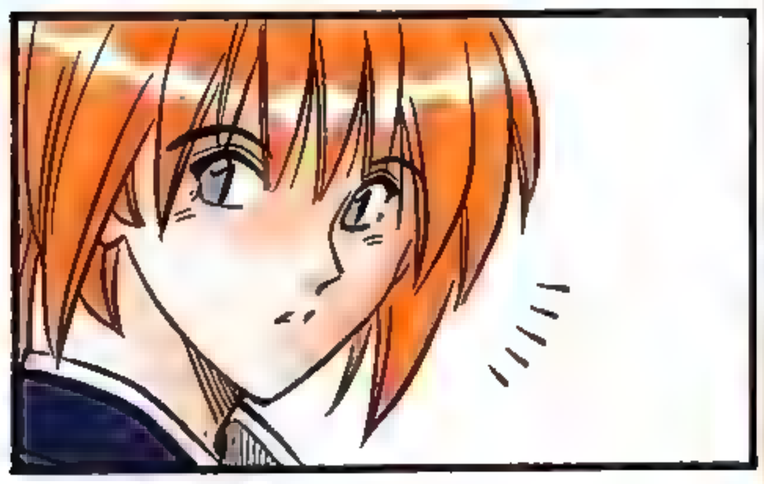
第百七十三幕「追憶ノ八―縁、来訪―」



.....

I'LL GO ASK HIM!
ｶﾀﾀﾀ

...WHO?
HE'S NOT FROM HERE.
DOES HE WANT TO PLAY TOO?

HEY!!

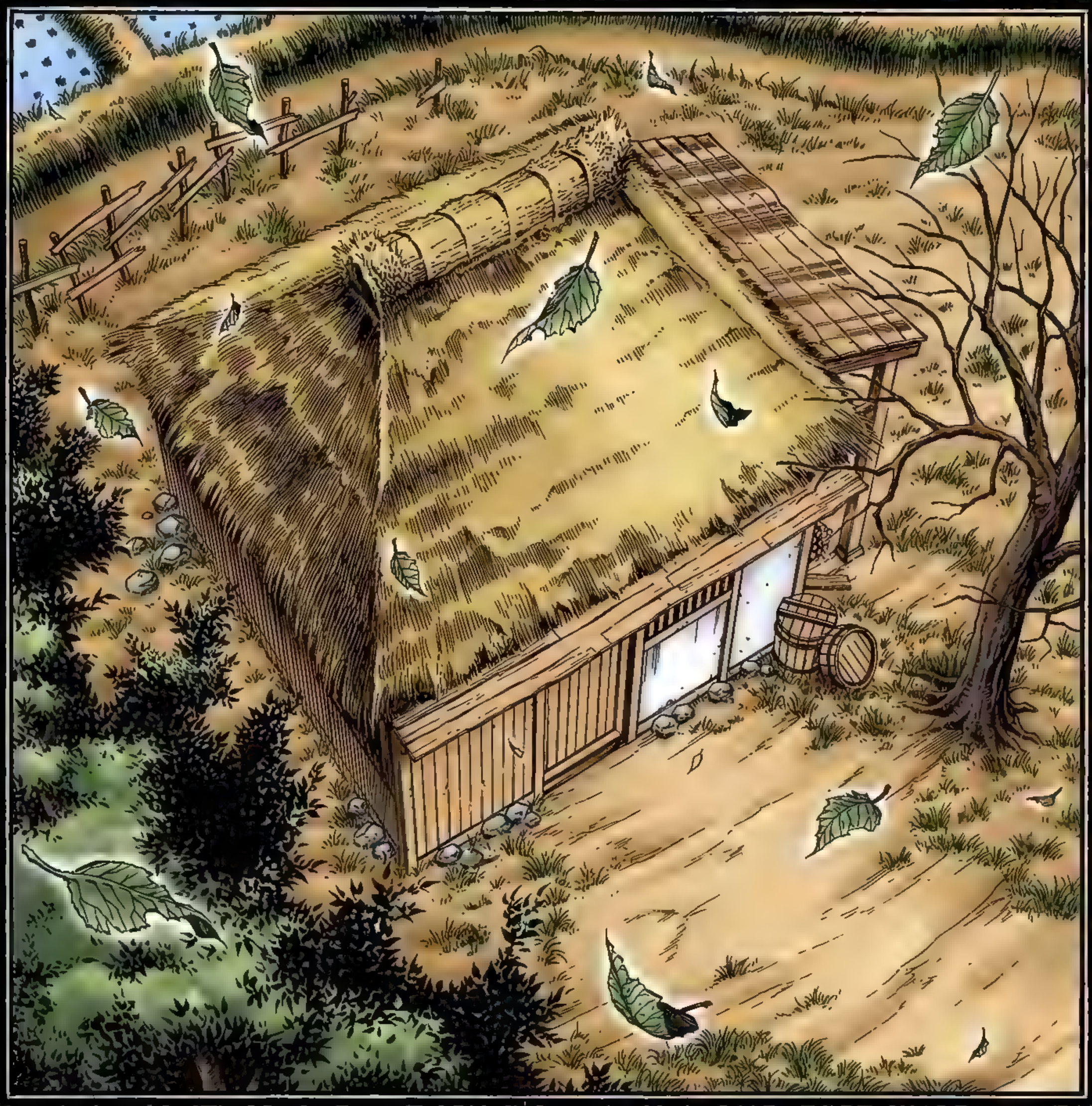
GAH!

OWWW!!

IS IT... REALLY YOU?

ENISHI?!

SIS !!



Act 173
Remembrance 8: Arrival of Emishi

THIS IS MY BROTHER...

...ENISHI.

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, HE HAS YOUR—

YOUR BROTHER.

I SEE...

OW!!

I'M SURE YOU TWO HAVE A LOT TO TALK ABOUT...SO I'LL STEP OUT FOR A WHILE.

SIXTEEN!!

FIFTEEN!!

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BUT HOW DID HE KNOW HOW TO FIND HER?

NO ONE IS SUPPOSED TO KNOW THIS LOCATION BUT KATSURA-SAN AND I'IZUKA-SAN.

OF COURSE I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT HER EITHER..

WHY HAVE I NEVER HEARD... ABOUT TOMOE'S BROTHER ?

THE ONLY OTHER POSSIBILITY IS TOMOE.

...THAT SEEMS UNLIKELY.

BUT JUDGING BY HER SURPRISE ...

...WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE...

...I'M AFRAID IT'S NOT LIKELY THAT WE'LL WELCOME THE NEW YEAR...

AREN'T YOU GONNA PLAY ANYMORE ?

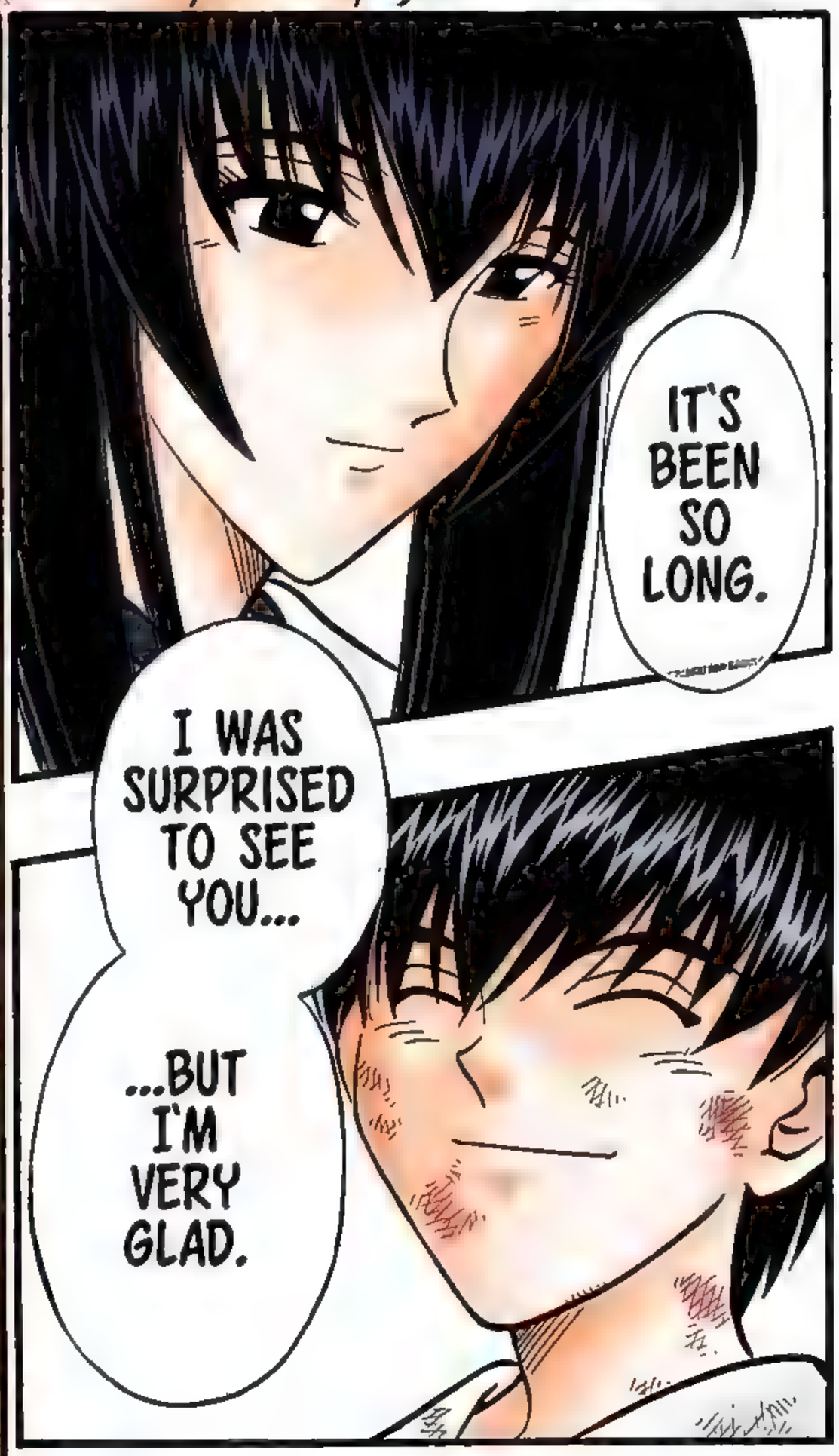
WHAT'S THE MATTER ?

WELL, ALL I HAVE ARE SUSPICIONS FOR NOW.

STILL...

OH, SORRY. HERE I COME!

YOU MUST BE HUNGRY.
FOLLOW ME. I WAS JUST MAKING DINNER.


IT'S BEEN SO LONG.
I WAS SURPRISED TO SEE YOU...
...BUT I'M VERY GLAD.

I HEADED THIS WAY WHEN YOU LEFT KYOTO A YEAR AGO.

キョト

I DON'T KNOW.

キョト

WHEN DID YOU LEAVE EDO?

IS DAD DOING WELL?

WHOSE PLACE ARE YOU STAYING AT NOW?

...ENISHI.

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO CONTACT ANYONE ...

...BECAUSE I AM THE CONTACT.

HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME?

I HAVEN'T CONTACTED ANYONE OUTSIDE...

...TO CAST TENCHŪ ON BATTŌSAI.

REJOICE, SISTER.

IT'S FINALLY TIME...

THE MAN SAID HE'D ALREADY TOLD YOU!

YOU DIDN'T HEAR ABOUT IT?

"WHEN THE TIME COMES, I WILL SEND SOMEONE YOU TRUST TO SERVE AS OUR CONTACT."

ENISHI...

YOU CAN'T BE...

"YOU ARE TO STUDY HIM UNTIL YOU GRASP THE DEEPEST TWISTS OF HIS PSYCHOLOGY, AND CAN UNCOVER THE WEAKNESS THAT WILL GUARANTEE OUR VICTORY."

"I WILL NOT QUESTION YOUR METHODS. UNTIL THEN, YOU WILL GET CLOSE TO BATTŌSAI AND WATCH HIM."

LET'S GO, TOMOE! IT'S ALMOST OVER!!

...MUSTN'T STAIN YOUR HANDS IN MATTERS LIKE THIS.

YOU ARE THE ELDEST SON OF THE YUKISHIRO FAMILY.

YOU...

HUH?

GO HOME... TO EDO.

I WANT TO HELP YOU!

THAT'S ALL!!

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE FAMILY!

GO HOME, ENISHI.

HE'S THE MAN WHO STOLE YOUR HAPPINESS !!!

WHAT HAPPENED ?

WHAT'S THE MATTER ?

...!!!

GU

WHY WON'T YOU COME...

...WITH ME?

WHY ARE YOU PROTECTING HIM?!

HE'S YOUR ENEMY!!

HMM?

BYE—!

SEE YA TOMORROW!

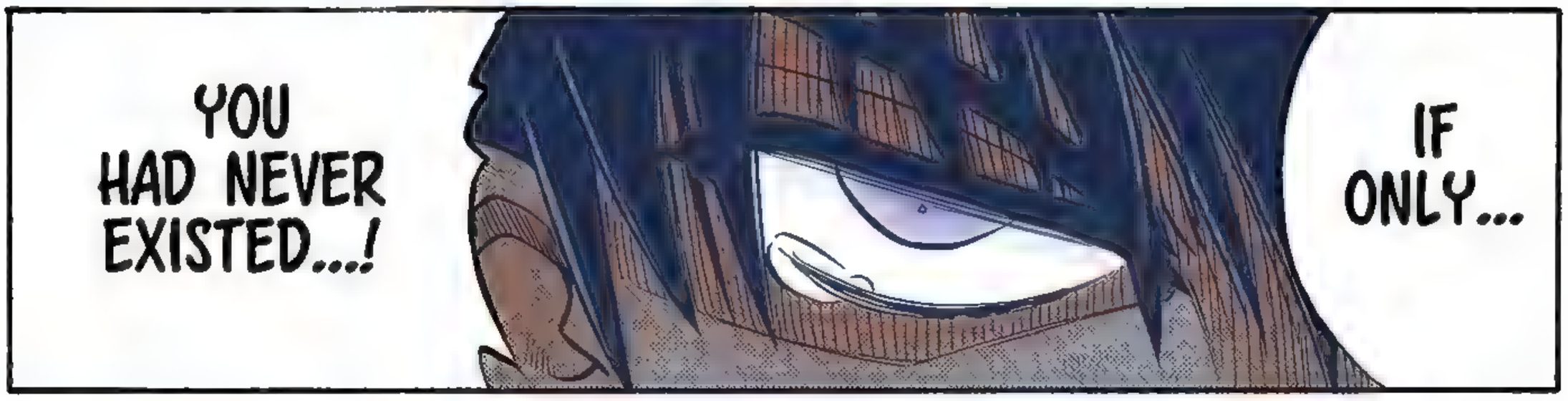
BYE.

TAKE CARE ON YOUR WAY HOME.

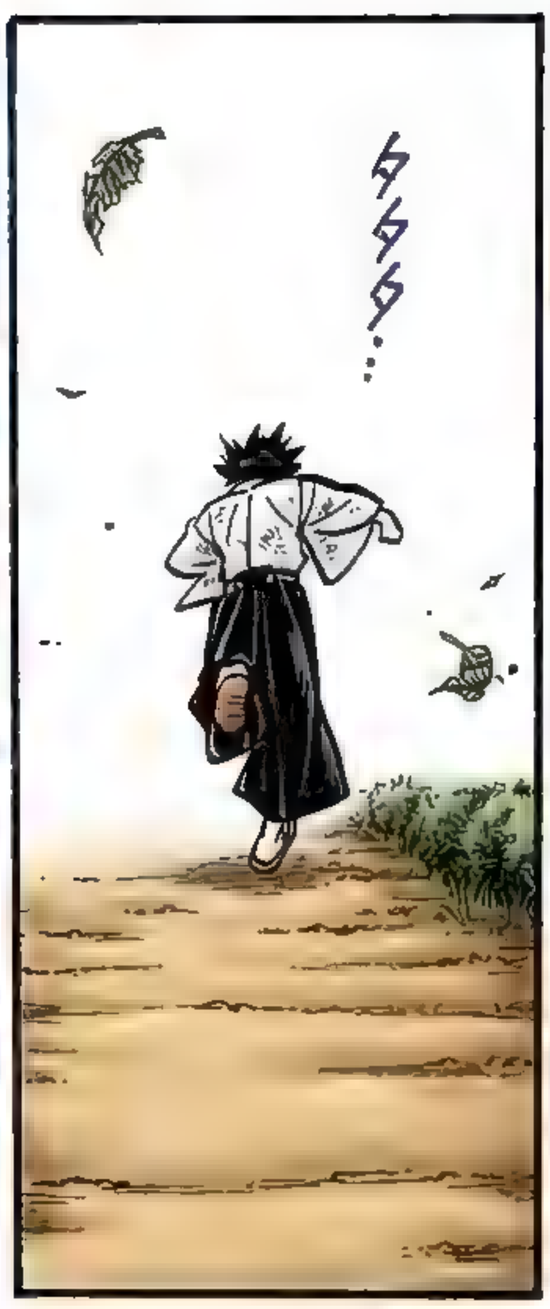
IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR DINNER—

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

SHIN


YOU HAD NEVER EXISTED...!
IF ONLY...

!.....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SHU

……

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TOMOE?
WHY DID YOUR—?

はっ

AND BEING SO RESPECT-FUL...

I KNOW I'VE NEVER TOLD YOU.

...EDO...?

N-NOTHING.

...WHAT'S WRONG?

...YOU'VE NEVER ASKED ME.

I SENT ENISHI...

...BACK TO EDO.

...MAYBE IT'S TIME.

!

...BUT...

LET'S...

...TALK A LITTLE.

THIS WAS DONE BY KOJOZERO SCANS

EDITED BY: KOJOZERO

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第百七十四幕「追憶ノ九ー雪、白く…ー」

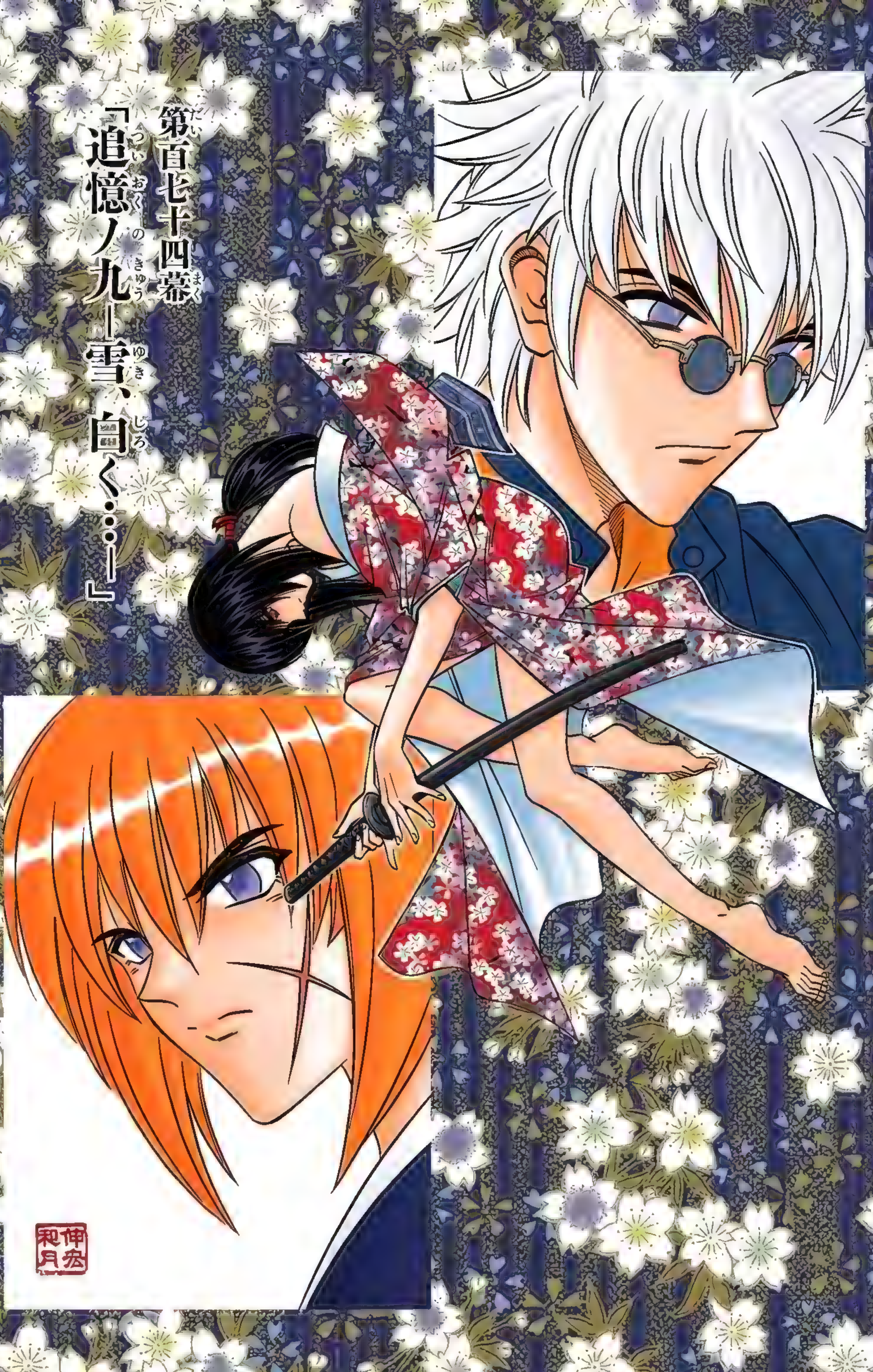
...IT'S GROWING COLD.

SNOW...

THIS WILL BE A LINGERING ONE...

第百七十四幕

「追憶ノ九―雪、白く…―」



和月伸宏

YES. MY FAMILY IS FROM EDO.

WE LIVED PEACEFULLY. FATHER WAS A RETAINER TO THE SHŌGUN.

WE DIDN'T HAVE MONEY TO WASTE, BUT WE ALWAYS HAD ENOUGH FOOD.

ENISHI NEVER KNEW HER...

...AND I RAISED HIM IN HER PLACE.

MOTHER WAS A GOOD WOMAN, BUT SHE DIED SOON AFTER GIVING BIRTH TO ENISHI.

FATHER WAS NO GOOD AT THE SWORD OR THE BRUSH, BUT HE WAS KIND.

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...AND A MOTHER.

TO HIM, I AM A SISTER...

HE'S VERY EMOTIONAL, AND HE CAN BE A PROBLEM.

HE'S MY DARLING BROTHER, BUT...

...HE HAD A VERY HARD TIME.

WHEN I SAID I WAS GETTING MARRIED...

.....

.....

HERE.

FU...

MY FIANCÉ WAS THE SECOND SON OF ANOTHER RETAINER.

LIKE MY FATHER, HE WAS NO SWORDSMAN OR ARTIST, BUT WAS KIND AND WORKED HARD.

I WAS HAPPY WHEN HE ASKED ME TO MARRY HIM.

I ALWAYS LIKED HIM FOR THAT.

BUT...

...HE NEVER KNEW HOW HAPPY I WAS.

WHICH IS WHY...

IT'S SO HARD FOR ME TO SMILE.

MY HEART IS SO DARK.

...I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO SHOW IT.

...FOR ALL MY JOY...

"A MERE SECOND SON OF A SAMURAI CAN'T MAKE YOU HAPPY! I MUST BE GOOD ENOUGH TO BE RECOGNIZED AS A SAMURAI MYSELF!"

AND...

...HE NEVER CAME BACK.

SO HE SAID. THEN HE POSTPONED THE WEDDING AND DECIDED TO JOIN THE MIMAWARIGUMI IN THE STRUGGLE FOR KYOTO.

AND DEVOTED MYSELF TO PLOTTING YOUR DEATH.

Hi!...

I COULDN'T REST AFTER I HEARD THE NEWS.

SO I CAME TO KYOTO...

...BUT MY HAPPINESS ...

...DIED WITH HIM.

HE DIED SOMEWHERE FAR AWAY...

...I DON'T KNOW WHERE...

...IT WAS MY FAULT.

AND IN THE END, I THINK...

I HAD TO FIND SOMEONE TO HATE...TO KEEP MY SANITY...

IF ONLY I'D CRIED AND BEGGED HIM TO STAY...

WELL, WHEN I THOUGHT THAT...

TOMOE...

I...

...UNDER-STAND...

A LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO...

I LEFT MY MASTER TO PROTECT THE HAPPINESS OF THIS NATION'S PEOPLE WITH MY SWORD.

IN ORDER TO DO SO, I THOUGHT I HAD TO END THIS CHAOS AND BUILD A NEW ERA. SO I ALLIED MYSELF WITH THE CHŌSHŪ ISHIN SHISHI AND BECAME HITOKIRI BATTŌSAI.

BUT REALITY IS NOT SO EASY.

I KILLED AND KILLED, BUT THE FLOW OF TIME DID NOT ADVANCE. I SWIRLED IN A CIRCLE OF DEATH.

MY SOUL GREW HEAVY, MY CONSCIOUSNESS MISTY. THE SMELL OF BLOOD SETTLED IN MY NOSTRILS.

AND THEN I MET YOU...

I BELIEVED HITEN MITSURUGI-RYŪ WOULD ENABLE ME TO DO THIS...

...LETTING THE SUN OF SANITY BREAK THROUGH.

YOUR QUESTIONS BLEW THE MISTS FROM MY MIND...

I NO LONGER SMELL BLOOD, BUT THE FAINT SCENT OF *HAKUBAIKŌ*.

...I TRULY UNDERSTAND THE HAPPINESS I'M TRYING TO PROTECT.

AND NOW, AFTER HALF A YEAR OF LIVING WITH YOU...

...CAN BEAR THE HAPPINESS OF MANKIND ON HIS SHOULDERS.

...NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL HIS SWORD...

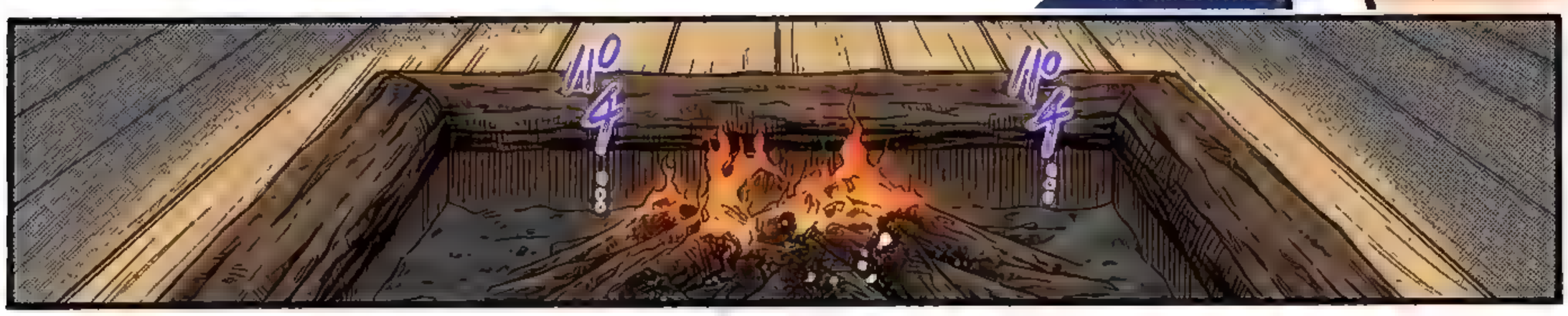
...HOW PERFECTLY HONED HIS SKILLS...

NO ONE MAN CAN CHANGE AN ERA. NO ONE MAN...

I CAN WEIGH THIS HAPPINESS IN MY HAND...

...AND FOR THE FIRST TIME I KNOW...

ALL A MAN CAN DO IS TO PROTECT THE HAPPINESS OF THE PEOPLE HE CAN SEE.



AND I WILL SEEK A WAY TO PAY FOR ALL THE HAPPINESS I'VE TAKEN FROM OTHERS.

BUT WHEN THE NEW ERA COMES...

...THEN I WILL FIND A WAY TO PROTECT WITHOUT KILLING.

UNTIL THE NEW ERA IS ESTAB-LISHED...

FOR NOW...

I MUST GO ON BEING A HITOKIRI.

I MUST KEEP MARCHING ATOP CORPSES.

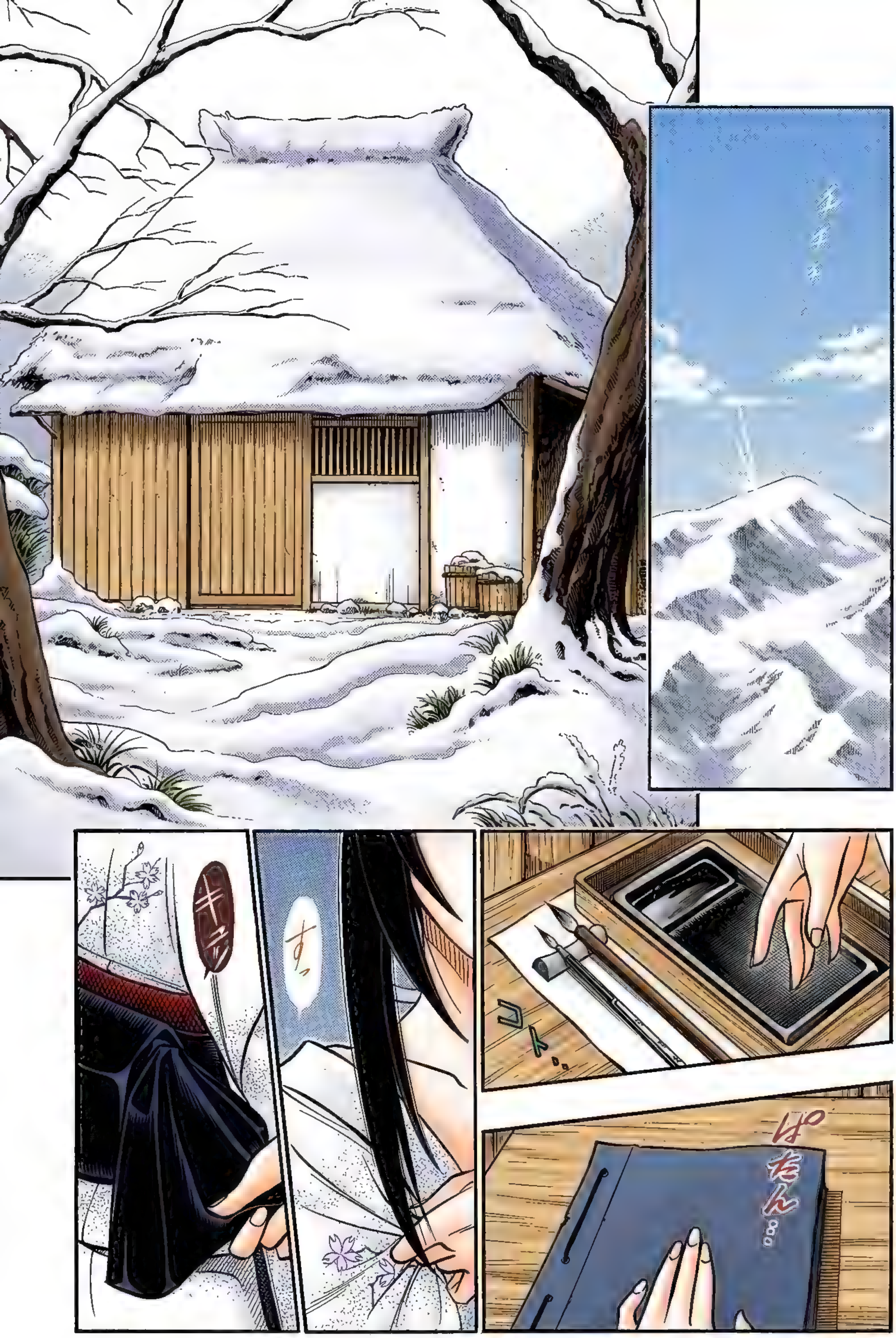
...I WILL PROTECT THIS TIME AROUND.

THE HAPPINESS YOU LOST ONCE TO THIS CHAOS...

...TOMOE ...

YES?

YES...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...AND GAVE ME ANOTHER IN ITS PLACE.

IN THE END, HE WILL PROTECT FAR MORE THAN HE'S KILLED.

BUT...

HE WILL KILL MORE PEOPLE BEFORE HE'S DONE.

I CAN'T LET HIM DIE HERE.

THE SECOND MAN I HAVE LOVED...

GOOD-BYE...

バタン...

THIS WAS DONE BY KOJOZERO SCANS

EDITED BY: KOJOZERO

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ザザザザ…

!

SOME-
ONE'S
COMING.

A
WOMAN...

IT'S
HER...

WHAT'S
THE
MATTER
?

第百七十五幕「追憶ノ十一結界の森一」

—WHERE IS THAT KID?

きょと

きょと

I SENT ENISHI OVER TO BATTŌSAI'S PLACE.

THERE ARE NO GAPS...

...IN OUR PLAN.

SHOWING UP HALF A DAY LATE...

LUCKY FOR YOU, KID. WE'D HAVE KILLED YOU IF SHE—

HH

NOW, WOMAN...

WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO REPORT?

第百七十五幕 「追憶ノ十一 結界の森」
だい　ついおくのじゅういち　けっかいもり

...WELL? SPEAK.

"WHERE IS MY SISTER?" "WHO KILLED MY FIANCÉ?" THEY BOTH LEAD TO THE SAME PATH.

SOMEONE ABOVE US COULDN'T STAND TO WATCH THE POOR LAD PINING AWAY FOR HIS SISTER.

WE DIDN'T INVOLVE HIM.

WHY...

...DID YOU INVOLVE ENISHI?

BEFORE THAT, ANSWER ONE QUESTION.

LET'S HEAR YOUR REPORT.

.....

YOU DIDN'T LIVE WITH HIM FOR A YEAR...

...JUST TO TELL US, "I COULDN'T FIND OUT."

TELL US...

BATTŌSAI'S WEAKNESS.

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

...HIMURA...

...HAS ONE WEAKNESS...

—HE IS TOO KIND TO BE A HITOKIRI—

EVEN THE MOST SKILLED SWORDSMAN CAN'T FULLY PROTECT HIMSELF IN HIS SLEEP.

...SLEEP.

...WHY DO YOU ASK SUCH A THING?

THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HIS WEAKNESS!

I WILL ASK ONE MORE QUESTION.

DOES BATTŌSAI TRULY LOVE YOU?

OH BUT IT DOES!

IF BATTŌSAI TRULY LOVES YOU, HE WILL COME HERE AFTER YOU.

WE HAVE THE ADVANTAGE OF THE LAND HERE. IF WE CAN LURE HIM IN, OUR CHANCES ARE GREATLY INCREASED.

RATHER THAN HOPING FOR A WEAKNESS THAT MAY NOT EXIST...

...IT'S SO MUCH MORE RELIABLE TO CREATE ONE.

TO MAKE ME HIS WEAKNESS !!

...THAT ...

...WAS YOUR PLAN ALL ALONG. NOT TO USE ME TO LEARN HIS WEAKNESS.

I HAVE ALREADY SENT A RUNNER TO DELIVER A LETTER.

HE MUST BE BLAZING WITH RAGE BY NOW.

ﾑﾞｯ!

I ENDED UP... PULLING HIM INTO A CORNER...

WE ARE NOT AS STUPID...

...AS YOU MAY THINK.

GOD...

!

I SHALL DECREASE THE NUMBER OF THE ENEMY BY-

!!!

!!

THEN AT LEAST—

HYAH !!!

WORDS TWISTED BY THE PASSIONS OF WEAKNESS!

"SLEEP IS HIS WEAKNESS"! WHAT A LIE!

YOU DON'T THINK TATSUMI CAN SEE THROUGH YOU?!

NAKAJŌ, SUMITA, AND YATSUME! NOW IS THE TIME TO SHOW THE STRENGTH OF THE YAMINOBU!!

WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE GIRL LATER! WE MUST FACE BATTŌSAI!!

COME NOW, BATTŌSAI. TO OUR BATTLEFIELD... THE "BINDING FOREST"!!

SHIKI

"YOUR TASK, ENISHI, IS TO THROW THIS LETTER INTO BATTŌSAI'S HOME. IF ALL GOES WELL, YOU AND YOUR SISTER CAN GO FREE."

...HE'S MOVING.

WE'RE GOING HOME TO EDO TOGETHER!

NOW, SIS, WE'RE GOING HOME!

IS THIS IT...?

.....

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

SOME-THING'S WRONG.

...LIKE NO FOREST I'VE KNOWN...

IT FEELS...

...ONE OF MY SENSES HAS BEEN SMOTHERED...

AS IF SOME-HOW...

ii
нннннолн

FOR THIS IS NO ORDINARY FOREST!

ITS MAGNETIC FIELDS ARE DEEPLY CORRUPTED, MORE TWISTED THAN THOSE OF THE FORESTS OF FUJI!!

ARE YOU SURPRISED? OF COURSE YOU ARE—

WELCOME TO THE "BINDING FOREST," BATTŌSAI !!

HUH!!

THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN USE THEIR "EXTRA PERCEPTION" PROPERLY HERE ARE THOSE WHO HAVE TRAINED HERE... THE YAMINOBU!!

IN THIS FOREST DEVOID OF ALL ANIMALS, THAT "SIXTH SENSE" OF ALL GREAT SWORDSMEN IS OF NO USE!!

...WHAT?

SO...

WHICH MEANS YOU CAN ONLY FIGHT AT HALF STRENGTH!!

!

GUH!!

I PROMISED HER THAT LAST NIGHT.

I WILL PROTECT TOMOE'S HAPPINESS.

ANYONE WHO STANDS IN MY WAY—

I WILL KILL!!!

...MAKE NO DIFFERENCE TO ME.

WHERE THIS IS OR WHO YOU ARE...

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Act 176 Remembrance 11: Shadow Warriors

LEAD ME TO TOMOE'S WHERE-ABOUTS.

OR TO YOUR DEATH.

CHOOSE QUICKLY.

...MAYBE...

IF HE'D STEPPED IN...?

IF HE'D STEPPED IN FURTHER, IT WOULD'VE BEEN BAD.

WHAT A SWORD STRIKE...

KH—

HOW ABOUT THIS ?!

I KNEW IT! IT'S NOT "IF" YOU STEPPED IN FURTHER!

YOU COULDN'T STEP IN CORRECTLY BECAUSE YOU CAN'T CONTROL YOUR BODY!

YOU HAVE NO CHANCE OF WINNING—

WITH THE FOREST BINDING YOUR SIXTH SENSE, YOUR SKILL IS IMPAIRED!

ス!!

ね…

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THINK I CARE ?!

AND DO YOU...

本

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ズバッ

YAAAAAA

GUH...

はぁ…

ドドド

TELL ME WHERE SHE IS.

THEN I'LL KILL YOU QUICKLY.

YOU FORGOT THESE.

SHIN

!?

!?

THERE ARE THREE MORE OF US! YOU CAN'T BEAT US ALL!

BUT—

DON'T THINK THIS IS OVER!!

...PAST THE CAVE...TO THE RIGHT...

THE YAMINOBU "SHADOW WARRIORS" HAVE BEEN CALLED THE ONIWABANSHŪ OF THE WEST!

WE ARE NINJA AMONG NINJA, ALLOWED ONLY VICTORY!

AND I...WILL BIND YOU FURTHER!!

WHICH MEANS BATTŌSAI WILL BE COMING.
...THAT SOUND...
NAKAJŌ'S BINDING HIM.
WE'D BETTER HURRY.

ZAKK

HSS—

ZAKK

HMPH...

SORE LOSER.

!

ZSHIN

じゃり…

VOLUME AND DIRECTION ARE DISTORTED...

I CAN'T RELY ON IT FOR A WHILE...

MY HEARING IMPAIRED BY THE NOISE OF THE EXPLOSION IN THE CAVE.

HE TRULY HAS BOUND ME MORE.

SO... THIS IS WHAT HE WANTED ...

NOW YOU'VE LOST TWO SENSES.

ONLY FOUR LEFT TO FIGHT WITH!

ゴオオ

...THINK I CARE?

DON'T MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF.

DO YOU...

...I DO.

SLASH

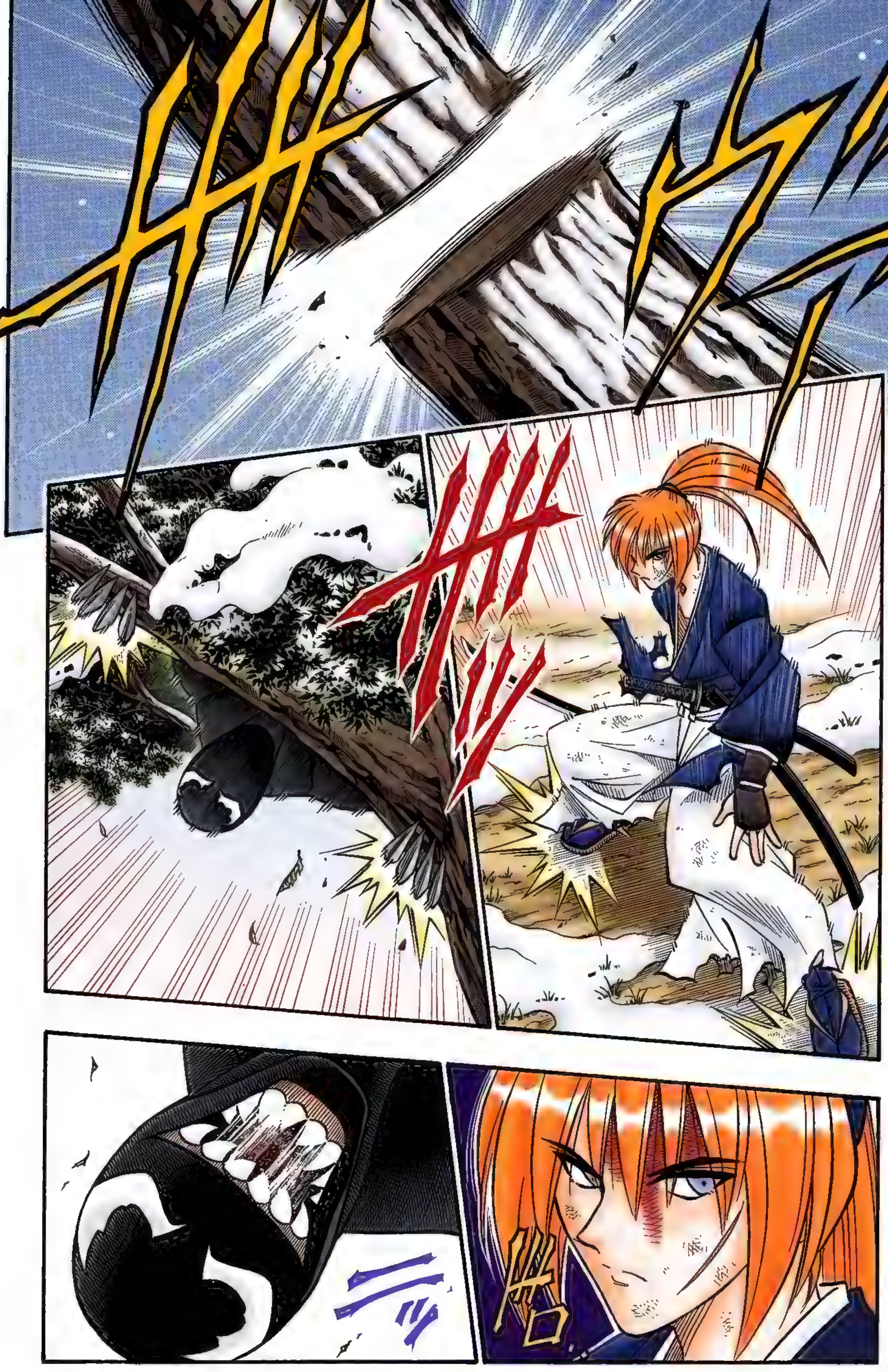
WHAT HAPPENS IF THE OBJECTS ATTACK ?!

I'M SURE. BUT...

EVEN WITHOUT MY INTUITION AND HEARING—

I CAN STILL SEE WELL ENOUGH TO DODGE A THING LIKE THIS!

!!



SIMULTANEOUS ATTACKS...?

GOOD. WE CAN SAVE A LOT OF TIME THIS WAY.

NNN!

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第百七十七幕「追憶ノ十二ー激闘ー」

HUH?

SIS...

WEIRD... WHERE DID SHE GO...?

COULD SHE...HAVE GONE INTO THE FOREST?!

SIS...?

Act 177
Remembrance 12: Fierce Battle

HAH!

HIS PLAN IS TO CONCENTRATE ON ONE OF US AT A TIME—

WIDE OPEN ABOVE!!

JUST WHAT WE WERE HOPING FOR!!

KH!

HUH.

ヒュ

ヒュ

ヒュ

!

NKH!

HH

SHOULD I GIVE YOU CREDIT...

...FOR SUCH PERSIST-ENCE?

A PITY YOU LET GO OF YOUR SWORD!

YOU'RE BECOMING ANNOYING.

ZOLF

SO WAIT RIGHT HERE.

I'LL KILL YOU SOON.

GGGYUH

IT... WON'T COME OUT?!

ﾄﾘｭｳｳｳ

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ブチッ

バキィ

IT IS THE LAW THAT ANYONE WHO SEES IT MUST DIE!!

THIS BODY IS A SECRET PASSED DOWN THROUGH GENERATIONS OF THE YATSUME CLAN!!

IN THIS ERA OR THE NEXT—I WILL KILL YOU!!

I WILL END OUR FIGHT FOR NOW—

BUT SOMEDAY—I WILL KILL YOU!

EVEN WITH HIS INTUITION AND HIS HEARING BOUND...

HE'S... HE'S TOO STRONG!!

はあ

はあ

AND THIS FIGHTING STYLE...IT'S NOTHING BUT RECKLESS CHARGING! HE COULDN'T HAVE ASSASSINATED A HUNDRED PEOPLE THIS WAY!

WHAT IS THIS MAN...?

HE'S NOTHING LIKE THE MAN WE RESEARCHED...!

HHH

HHH

...IN THE HUT AHEAD.

THE WOMAN IS THERE TOO.

...THE FIRST ONE SAID THERE WERE THREE MORE.

WHERE IS THE LAST ONE...

WAIT !!

YOU MIGHT MISS...

TAKE A...

...GOOD LOOK!

THE "THIRD BOND."

TOMOE !!

THAT EXPLO-SION...

BATTŌSAI AND THEM MUST BE FIGHTING!

ドオ!!!

!

SO.

ミシッ ミシッ ミシッ

!

BUT...

ALL MY

...SO IF I WAIT HERE, IT'LL RETURN TO NORMAL.

TEMPORARY BLINDNESS, I THINK...

INTUITION, HEARING... AND NOW VISION.

ふう...

I CAN'T !!!

TO DEFEAT THOSE TWO...

HE MUST BE GOOD.

IT WILL BE MY TURN NEXT...

...SO SUMITA HAS MADE HIMSELF INTO A BOND TOO.

THAT MUST MEAN YATSUME'S ALSO WOUNDED.

I MAY AS WELL FINISH OFF THIS USELESS W—

BUT WITH HIS VISION IMPAIRED, IT SHOULD TAKE HIM A WHILE TO GET HERE.

HHH

HHH

EH?!

I AM TAKING TOMOE BACK.

.....

BUT...

...NOW I KNOW MY ENEMY!!

THE FACES ARE THE SAME, BUT THEIR NATURES ARE OPPOSITES. I'D DIE IF I TRIED TO FIGHT THE WRONG BATTŌSAI.

THE BATTŌSAI WE STUDIED ...

...ALWAYS WIELDS HIS SWORD IN COLD LOGIC FOR THE SOLE AIM OF COMPLETING HIS MISSIONS.

BUT THE BATTŌSAI WHO STANDS BEFORE ME NOW SWINGS HIS SWORD WITH THE FURY OF A MAN PROTECTING HIS WOMAN.

...I SEE.

THE REASON THE OTHER TWO LOST...

...COMES CLEAR TO ME NOW.

...NN...

IF YOU WANT THE WOMAN, BATTŌSAI...TURN ME INTO A CORPSE FIRST!!

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DIGITAL
SHUEISHA JUMP COMICS

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